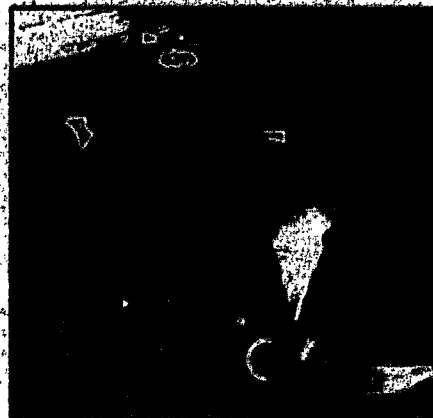


Discover the Coast 2003

Our annual review of the Mississippi Gulf Coast's top attractions

Special Section, Inside



A higher consciousness

Food, fun and fellowship at Hancock County's own Hare Krishna community.

Community, Page 1B

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Since 1892

VOL. 112, NO. 42 BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

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THREE SECTIONS, 38 PAGES 75 CENTS

Thursday
May 29, 2003

Boy Scouts to host yard sale Saturday

The Boy Scouts of American Legion Post 77 will host a yard sale this Saturday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 408 Louisa St. in Waveland, across from 84 Lumber.

Kristian Booth live in concert at Shiloh

Kristian Booth will perform in concert this Sunday at 6 p.m. at Shiloh Baptist church at Necaise Crossing, eight miles north of Kiln on Hwy. 603.

Bayou Talla Fellowship Vacation Bible School

Bayou Talla Fellowship will host Vacation Bible School at 18555 Hwy. 43, June 2-5, 6-8 p.m. daily. Call 255-1118 for more. Theme is Son Harvest County Fair. Registration is Monday at 5:45 p.m. For children ages 3yrs. to sixth grade.

St. Paul Seafood Fest

Festival begins Friday. See page 4B for more.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Editorial Page 4A
Obituaries Page 9A
Sports Pages 2-3B
Classified Pages 6-9B

TIDES

DAY: HIGH: 10:40
LOW: 4:10
TUE: 10:40
WED: 10:40
THU: 10:40
FRI: 10:40
SAT: 10:40
SUN: 12:23 p.
MON: 1:32 p.
TUES: 2:11 p. 12:52 a.
WED: 2:57 p. 1:53 a.
THURS: 3:50 p. 2:55 a.

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FOR OUR VETERANS



Echo staff photos by Geoff Belcher

Hundreds showed up Monday for the unveiling of the Blue Star Memorial at the Veterans' Memorial in Waveland. The Blue Star marker is the first in the state of Mississippi. The memorial was sponsored by the Bay-Waveland Garden Club in cooperation with American Legion Post 77, the Waveland Civic Association and the city of Waveland.



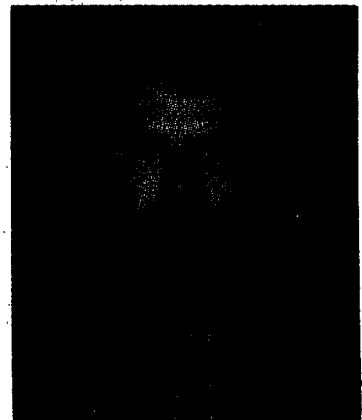
Man dies from injury he suffered in assault

Hancock County deputies still searching for Jacob's attacker

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

A Shoreline Park man died Saturday from injuries he sustained from an assault a week before, according to Hancock County Sheriff Steve Garber.

"Larry M. Jacob, 47, died during the evening hours of May 24. Investigators say that on May 17, at approximately 2:45 a.m., Deputy Mike Casano responded to a report of an assault at 11053 North Shore Drive in Shoreline Park. Upon arriving at the residence Casano and rescue personnel found Jacob semi-conscious and suffering from a head



Carl Lamar Brown

wound," Garber's report said.

Carl Lamar Brown, 29, has been identified as a suspect in Jacob's death and investigators are requesting anyone having information on the crime, or the whereabouts of Brown to contact the sheriff's office at 467-5101, Garber said.

"Jacob was initially transported by ambulance

ASSAULT-PAGE 7A

Troubled waters in Clermont Harbor

Residents take issue with company

BY SHANNON JENKINS
Staff Writer

Drinking water from the tap is not an option for several residents in Clermont Harbor.

Most of the time they don't even use their water for cooking. They do use their water for washing

clothes and bathing, but they're not happy about it.

These residents claim their water company, Total Environmental Solutions Inc. (TESI), does not provide quality water.

Don Hoffman, who

WATER-PAGE 7A

Federal agency to test DuPont air emissions

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Is the DuPont deLisle Plant polluting area groundwater? Not by way of their deep well injections, says the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry in a report released earlier this spring. The agency is now in the process of examining evidence which will determine whether possible contamination in the area, that many residents believe is making them

Representatives of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry will meet with the public at Pass Christian City Hall on June 5.

seriously ill, could come from the plant's air emissions or dioxin emissions. On June 5, the agency will

hold a public meeting at the Pass Christian City Hall to discuss its conclusions on the deep well injections.

At present, more than 2,000 area residents are involved in a lawsuit against the plant alleging serious long-term ill health effects due to contamination resulting from disposal of toxic waste products from the plant.

Many area residents and lawyers involved in the suit against the

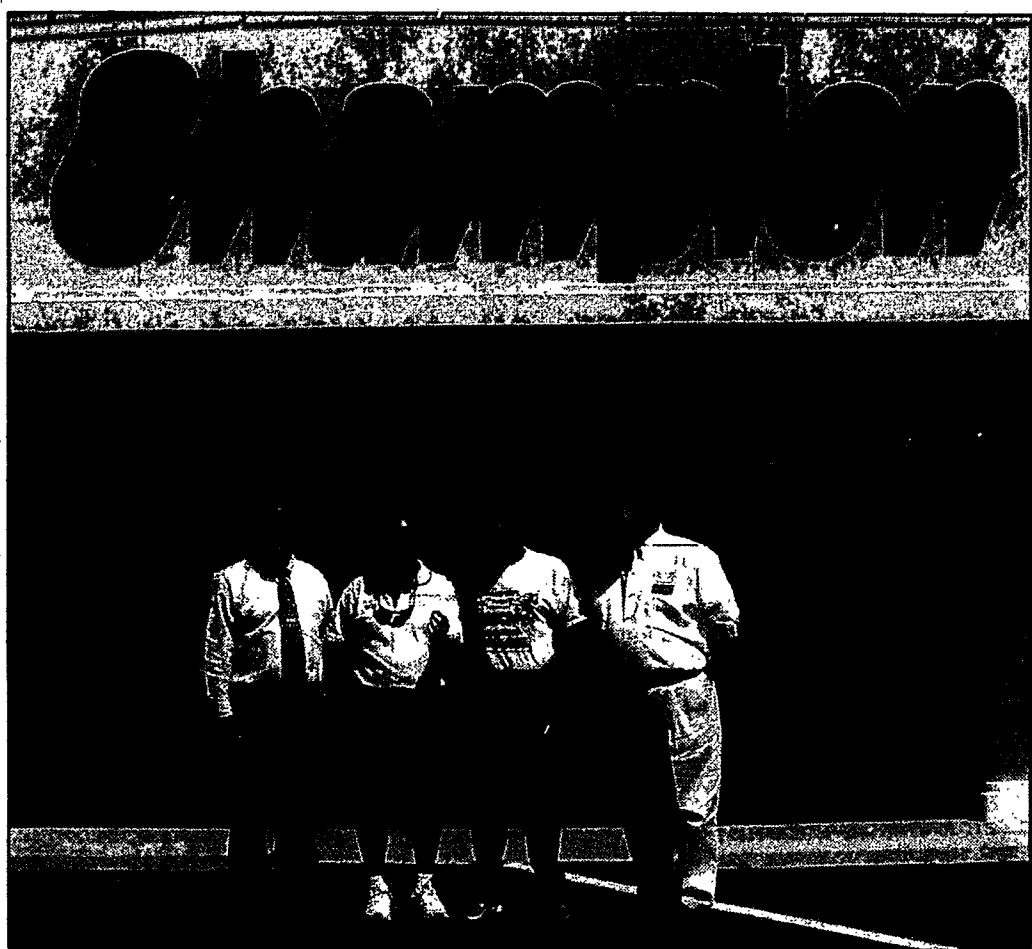
plant say they are skeptical of the agency's integrity, that they have been sent to do nothing more than diffuse an explosive situation.

As a result of that distrust, many people chose to stay home during initial health consultations held last fall. The agency hopes that will change.

James Durant, health assessor for the agency says that the purpose

DUPONT-PAGE 7A

A Truck-load of Hope



Pictured from the left are Vice President and general manager Vic Dehon, Latham, Kenny Bilbo, and general sales manager Gary Fitzhugh.

Hope Haven gets donation

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Hope Haven Children's Shelter received a \$500 donation from Kenny Bilbo Productions and Champion Dodge on Wednesday. The two were sponsors of the Motocross competition held recently at the Hancock County Equine Facility and Livestock Arena, which raised the money in a 50/50 raffle.

One raffle winner, Jake Cospelich, donated his entire \$122 winnings, Bilbo said.

The center also received a \$500 donation from Annunciation Men's Club, said director Terry Latham. Since media attention alerted the public of the center's plight with dwindling donations, the center has received about \$7,500 in donations, said Latham, many from people who have never given before.

"We are still down about half in the amount of individual, small donations," Latham said. "But we appreciate the help we have received."

Echo Staff Photo by Bennie Shallbetter

Active hurricane season being predicted this year

BY JOHN PAIN
Associated Press Writer
MIAMI (AP)

Government forecasters predicted a busier-than-normal Atlantic hurricane season Monday: Six to nine hurricanes overall, including two to four major storms packing winds of at least 111 mph.

Higher-than-normal ocean temperatures and other factors should make conditions ripe for hurricanes this year, said James Mahoney, deputy administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Forecasters also said there is a 70 percent chance that La Nina will develop this summer. The weather phenomenon of lower-than-normal Pacific Ocean temperatures near the equator typically leads to more hurricane activity.

Overall, 11 to 15 tropical

storms are expected develop during the season that runs from June 1 to Nov. 30; the historical average is 10 tropical storms and six hurricanes.

Last year, there were 12 tropical storms and four hurricanes.

Since 1995, forecasters have noted an increase in overall tropical storm and hurricane activity. Officials are warning residents to be prepared.

"We may have gotten lazy and lackadaisical in our preparedness for hurricanes, get over it," said Mike Brown, director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The government will issue five-day hurricane forecasts this season, replacing the three-day advisories used since 1964. Forecasters say that will allow accurate, longer-range outlooks for increasingly

populated coastal areas. It will also be helpful for those who need more than three days to move themselves and their property, such as the Navy.

Hurricane forecaster William Gray updated his 2003 prediction last month to say there would be eight hurricanes, three of them severe. The Weather Research Center predicts six hurricanes this year.

The storm names for the year are Ana, Bill, Claudette, Danny, Erika, Fabian, Grace, Henri, Isabel, Juan, Kate, Larry, Mindy, Nicholas, Odette, Peter, Rose, Sam, Teresa, Victor and Wanda.

On the Net: National Hurricane Center: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>

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Second Saturday Artwalk 2003 - Bay St. Louis is June 14

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The Old Town Bay St. Louis merchants invite you to join them for the Second Saturday Artwalk of 2003. From 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM there will be live music, artist's receptions at the galleries, refreshments and late evening shopping.

Come early, eat at one of their excellent restaurants, pick up a map of Old Town and plan your evening of visiting galleries and shopping.

'HOT SPOTS'

SOL GARDEN 111C MAIN STREET: Pye Parson owner of Sol Gardens invites you to experience a refreshing alternative to shopping. Our ultimate goal is not to sell you a product or design, but to be a source of inspiration.

Whether your style be formal, eclectic, or just plain fun, we can provide everything from exotic plants, large garden containers, fountains, and local art to planning and installation by Sol interiors.

Featured Artist Sallie Wilson will be painting on site from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Sallie's work is color texture, and coastal imagery, from Herons to Mermaids. Therefore it's not

only "fun" but also appropriate for the Gulf Coast Home, Bill & Beverly Parson of "For the Birds" will also be on site with their latest birdhouse creations. Made out of cedar and adorned with hand-made pottery, the houses are both functional and unique.

YOU'RE INVITED 100 N. BEACH BLVD: Come help them celebrate their year anniversary on Second Saturday.

Featured Artists will be Myra Menville and Linden Williams, New Orleans native Myra Menville presents her icons in watercolors and acrylics. These were conceived through her love of nature and flowers.

Butterflies and Angels are recurring themes in her work. Menville's development of the "self" is an important component in her belief that human nature can be transformed by love.

Menville's Academy of the Sacred Heart education both in New Orleans and Barat University in Chicago has helped her attain her core values that truth, beauty and goodness are a major source of inspiration in her paintings.

Menville is a member of

the Louisiana Watercolor Society and Artist on the Verge. She has studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in New Orleans and worked in mixed media. Dreamers and enthusiasts alike will appreciate the message of love and hope in her icon.

"Linden Williams: The empty nest combined with moving to beautiful Pass Christian, MS stirred in me a latent childhood love for drawing the inspirational beauty of God's creation," she said.

"Primarily self-taught (and with much more to learn) I practice the somewhat 'lost art' of drawing primarily using colored pencil and pastels.

"My passion is drawing and with each piece I do I hopefully gain a little more skill and in the process learn more about myself, and the magnificent artistry of our Creator found in even the simplest sea shells. It also affords me with an opportunity to share my joy and love of nature with you."

PEOPLES BANK WILL SPONSOR THE MUSIC OF DRISKELL MOUNTAIN IN THE 200 BLOCK OF MAIN ST. CHAIRMAN: Richie Zitzmann, 467-6870

Bob Lambert, chief investigator, resigns from sheriff's department

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

Hancock County Sheriff Steve Garber has announced the resignation of Chief Investigator Bob Lambert.

Garber said, "Lambert resigned his employment with the Hancock County Sheriff's Department due to personal circumstances. I am unable to comment further due to (the privacy of) personnel files."

"Investigator Kenny

Hurt will be overseeing the criminal investigative unit as interim chief," Garber added.

Hurt's carrier with the Hancock County Sheriff's

Department began as a part time deputy in 1983 and moved to full-time in 1987. He has been with the investigative unit for the past 10 years.

Purple Heart stamp reception

The Hwy. 90, Bay St. Louis branch of the U.S. Postal Service will host a reception Friday at 1 p.m., to celebrate the first issue of the new Purple Heart Stamp.

Postmaster Rickey Harrell invites all military personnel to attend. The event is open to the public.

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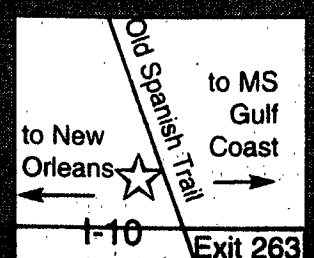
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NASA, USM join forces on early childhood education

NASA and The University of Southern Mississippi have forged an agreement that promises to establish a model at Stennis Space Center for education and research in the field of early childhood learning.

The university will operate the Stennis child care center that serves children of the space center's employees. This new association will offer enhanced state-of-the-art teaching applications in an exciting, educational and fun environment.

"We are excited about this association with the university for our child development program," said Dr. Dewey Herring, education officer for Stennis.

"This new agreement will provide a steady stream of ongoing research and application that will be beneficial to the continuing enhancement of the program here. The research aspect is important, and the university's success record in administering two other child development programs is encouraging for our operation."

The research component, once in place, will involve university faculty and graduate students in developing effective instructional materials and activities for young children.

USM educators coordinating the program are Dr. Sharon H. Walker and Dr. Howard Walters from the university's J.L. Scott Marine Education Center and Aquarium, and Dr. Wanda S. Maulding, division chair and professor of education and psychology at USM Gulf Coast.

"We see this program as offering a competitive edge for recruiting technical personnel at Stennis," said Dr. Angeline Dvorak, USM

vice president of research and economic development. "Creating a model program provides an excellent learning experience for Southern Miss students who are focusing on the education of younger children."

Dvorak noted that students will gain personal experience in a quality program that supports children's development in a nurturing, safe and healthy environment while delivering hands-on

faculty's expertise creates a research engine that fills a need on the coast and in the state. It is a good fit with the Stennis Space Center's reputation for excellent educational programs."

In prior years, the center has operated a science summer day camp for about 40 children ages 5 and older. Walters anticipates an increase in this summer's camp participation. The camp will adopt a theme of "space, oceans, earth."

"The summer camp will be expanded at an additional building that NASA has provided," Walters said. "The camp area is surrounded by pristine forest and is just a short hike by trail to the Pearl River and the NASA recreation site."

Walters said the official okay is in place to open the "space, oceans, earth day" camp to children of non-Stennis parents this summer as spots are available.

A governor's appointee to the Mississippi task force for pre-K education and literacy, Walters spearheaded the university's proposal to Stennis. He also chairs the state's Department of Health child care licensure advisory council.

"Attention to early childhood learning is at a 'relatively emergent status' in Mississippi as compared to historic efforts elsewhere," Walters said. "A model early childhood learning center with a research component could serve as an agent for change and systemic improvement for the state as a whole while providing valuable experiences for children and their parents."

"The 'wow' of space and oceans can motivate even the youngest children to develop their natural openness for learning."

"This new agreement will provide a steady stream of ongoing research and application that will be beneficial to the continuing enhancement of the program here. The research aspect is important, and the university's success record in administering two other child development programs is encouraging for our operation."

**Dr. Dewey Herring,
Stennis education officer**

experiences built around themes of space, oceans and earth science.

"The university's Scott Aquarium has for decades excelled in using the natural world to whet youngsters' appetites for learning and exploring," Dvorak said. "The combination of the aquarium's national leadership in science education and our education

Pass student gets award scholarship



Echo staff photo by Shannon Jenkins

Stacy Steube displays her creations for Kathie Short (Collage Art in the Park chairperson), far left, Helen St. Paul and Wilma Rizzardi, who have awarded her the \$1,500 Dot Hector Memorial Art Scholarship to help her pursue a fine arts degree. Steube, the daughter of Lynn and Gary Steube of Pass Christian, plans to continue her education in art after graduating from Pass High next year. Monies for the scholarship are collected during Collage Art in the Park in Pass Christian, which is sponsored by the Pass Christian Chamber of Commerce. This year's 10th annual event will be Sept. 27-28 in War Memorial Park.

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Waveland Policeman of Year



Patrolman Elfren Acosta was honored at the regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen in Waveland last week. Mayor Longo presented Acosta with a plaque acknowledging his devotion to duty which resulted in him being chosen as Policeman of the Year.

Water service may be interrupted at Clermont Harbor on May 30

Total Environmental Solutions Inc. will be doing scheduled maintenance on tying in the new well in at Oak Harbor Subdivision of Hancock County of Friday, May 30, starting at 2 p.m.

You may be without water until about 4 p.m. When the water comes back on you will need to boil the water. Steve Jones, spokesperson for the water

system, said this precautionary action is necessary because the system can lose pressure during this procedure.

When a distribution system loses pressure, contaminants can siphon back into the system. Public Health officials consider any system that has lost pressure contaminated until tests of the water prove otherwise.

As soon as pressure is restored to those customers affected, water system officials will begin collecting water samples for testing.

When pressure is restored, officials recommend that consumers vigorously boil for one minute any water to be consumed.

Users will be notified when tests indicate that the advisory can be lifted.

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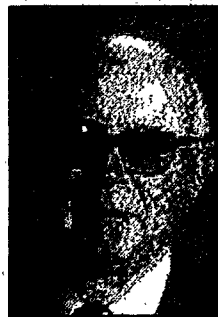
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Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

Hancock libraries begin 2003 summer reading program

It was good to see the large attendance at the unveiling of the Blue Star Memorial Marker at the Veterans Memorial on Monday.

The turnout shows there are still those who remember the men and women who have made it possible to have the freedoms we have today.

Everyone who participated in some way needs to be commended, as this was a great celebration for community.

Through the efforts of many, the Veterans Memorial is taking shape and it something the sponsors, American Legion Post 77, Waveland Civic Association and City of Waveland can be proud to say, we have done our part.

Patriotism needs to continue in memory of those Veterans who are no longer here and honor those who are still living.

The Hancock County Library System's 2003 Summer Reading Program has begun and ends June 21.

This is one of the most popular programs by the Hancock Library System and involves hundreds of folks from pre-school through eighth grade.

Registrations are now underway at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library, Bay St. Louis; Kiln Public Library and Pearlinton Public Library.

Programs and activities begin on June 3, with programs at the Pearlinton Public Library on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library, 10:30 a.m.; and on Thursdays at the Kiln Public Library at 10:30 a.m.

The Waveland Public Library is now under going renovations and enlargement and there should be a grand re-opening in the future.

Each registrant receives a reading record, book bag and pencil with which to record books, read, and those who complete the program will receive a certificate the week of June 24.

Programs and activities scheduled for this year's Summer Program include a visit from Marine Life Oceanarium, fish prints with Chris Lagarde, a visit from Terry Vandeventer the Snake Man and much more.

The Library's Summer Programs are always interesting and well attended and it is hoped all our youngsters will be involved.

For more information on the programs, contact Adrienne Bradley, Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library, 467-5282; Sandra Ladner, Kiln Public Library, 255-1724; or Deborah Hill, Pearlinton Public Library, 533-0755.

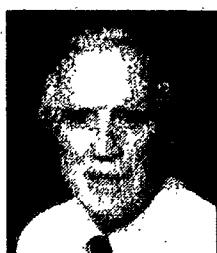
Enjoy your summer reading!

Radio 'behemoth' buys up large chunk of stations around Mississippi

Most Americans don't realize it, but control and ownership of the nation's broadcast media is being consolidated in the hands of a few powerful radio and TV mega-companies.

It started with enactment of the Telecommunications Act and is now about to be expanded by the Federal Communications Commission.

Already Mississippi, though not considered a prime commercial broadcast media market, has seen the largest radio behemoth in the nation buy up a huge chunk of stations around this state.



Eyes on Mississippi

By Bill Minor

When the FCC meets next Tuesday, media-watchers warn, it will even broaden its ownership rules, opening the way for more monopolization of what the listening or viewing audience will get to see or hear.

A longtime FCC ban on newspaper-television cross-ownership is expected to be ended and the commission will allow further domination of local television markets in larger cities.

While the Bush Administration has not been directly identified behind the FCC media power grab, there are cer-

tain linkages which suggest administration backing.

One is that the commission has a three to two Republican majority. And as it turns out, Michael Powell, the son of Colin Powell, is the FCC chairman and is the strongest proponent behind the proposal for more media consolidation.

Under the 1996 Telecommunications Act—a measure U.S. Rep. Chip Pickering had boasted as having helped to draft while he was a Senate staffer—the FCC has opened the gates to monopolization of local radio, the prime source of news or opinion for a great many Americans.

Pickering and his then-employer, U.S. Sen. Trent Lott, had hailed the 1996 act as a deregulatory measure. One of its strongest

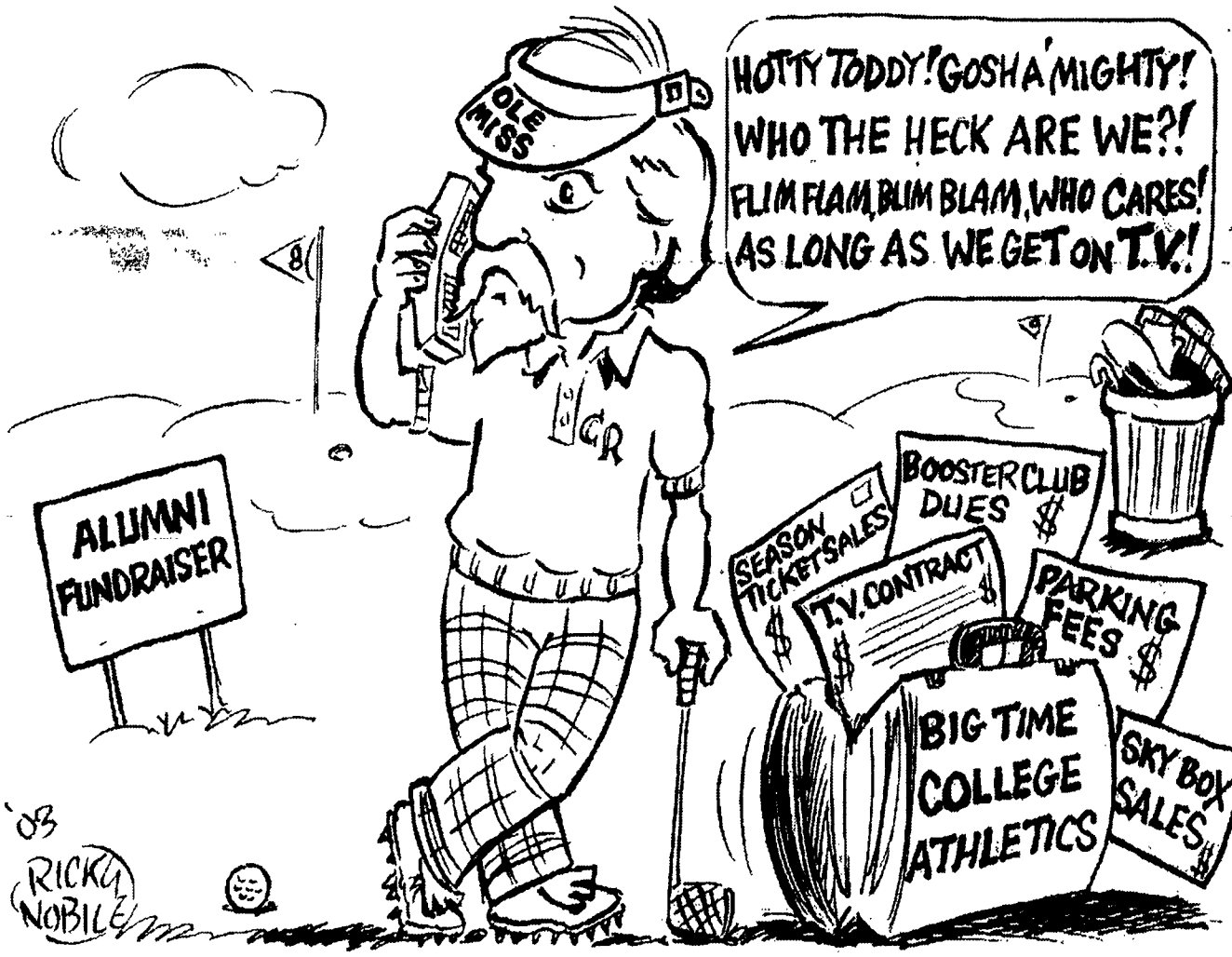
backers down here was then-WorldCom CEO Bernie Ebbers, who utilized the new law to further extend WorldCom holdings. And while most attention was then focused on its long distance implications, little attention was given to radio station mergers.

Since the 1996 act was passed, the FCC has lifted its cap of 40 radio stations that any one broadcasting company could own and permitted multiple ownerships. As a result, three companies now own half the radio stations in America.

The single biggest company is Clear Channel Communications, based in San Antonio, which now owns 1,240 radio stations around the country.

MINOR-5A

OLE MISS MAY GIVE COLONEL REBEL A MAKEOVER TO REFLECT THE TIMES...



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Just one bad apple

Waveland woman concerned about officer's involvement in recent 'bar room brawl'

Dear Editor:

I write to you concerning the recent incident in which yet another Waveland police officer was involved in a "bar room brawl."

I am filled with much disappointment and concern regarding this most recent display of poor judgment.

Let me precede my statements by saying that I feel that the Waveland Police Department provides efficient, effective, and professional services on the daily basis.

The citizens of Waveland should feel confident that they are being protected and served by one of the finest police agencies on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

However, with this most recent episode of inappropriate and inconsiderate decision making on the part of one police officer, I find myself asking the all too important question, "Did he

not learn from the mistakes of his peers?"

Obviously not, as the involved officer displayed no concern for the effects that his decisions would have on his peers or department as a whole. With no regard for others, this officer chose to blemish the reputation of the Waveland Police Department.

I encourage the citizens of Waveland to hold accountable the one bad cop that has acted irresponsibly and unprofessionally, not the entire department or staff. Please do not blame the fine men and women of the Waveland Police Department simply because one officer goes astray.

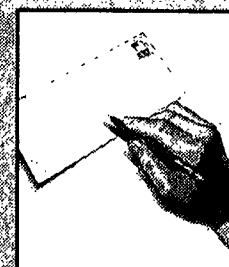
Consider contacting your police chief to voice your opinions. He can be reached at 467-3669.

With regards,
Cassandra Morgan
Waveland

Letters to the Editor

Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer per month. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject letters. Letters of thanks, expressions of appreciation and political endorsements are inappropriate.



Swindle a good choice for Bay High principal

Dear Editor:

This letter is being written in response to a recent article in the Sea Coast Echo concerning the appointment of Mrs. Marica Boyer Swindle as the new Principal of Bay High School.

It is our opinion the Bay-Waveland School Board could not have chosen a better person for this position. Mrs. Swindle has a proven record of leadership as a principal,

having held this position at Second Street Elementary for several years. She is a very caring and concerned individual whose greatest concern is the well-being of the students. She is a strict disciplinarian, yet fair, with students. We believe she will be a tremendous addition to the staff at Bay High for many years to come.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lee Williams, Bay St. Louis

Amateur skateboarding contest series comes to South Coast Skate Park May 31

THE SEA COAST ECHO South Coast Skate Park in Waveland will kickstart an 11-stop skateboarding series on May 31.

The Hometownrising Amateur Skateboard Contest Series will then move on to parks in Missouri, Wisconsin, Kansas, Oklahoma, Minnesota and Texas.

The summer tour is open to the following age groups: 11 and under, 12-15 and 16 and up. Sponsored skaters are considered as an additional group.

Entry fees are \$25 for qualifying events and \$35 for finals. First, second and

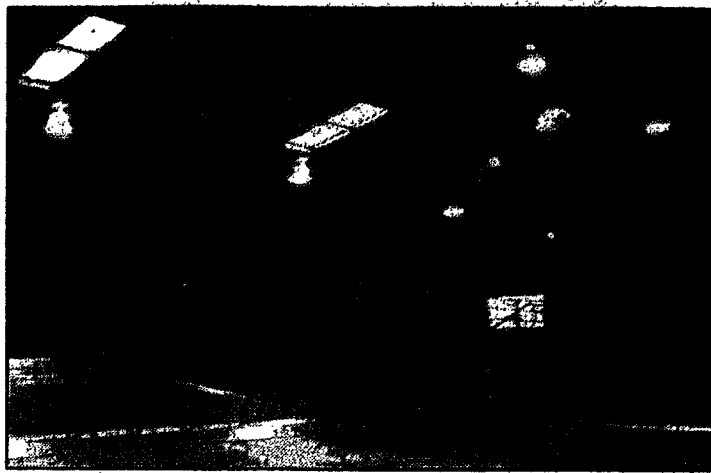
third prizes will be awarded in all four categories.

The top eight skaters from each group will qualify to skate at the finals in Houston, Texas, in July.

Southside Skatepark in Houston will host the finals for age groups 11 and under and 12-15 on July 26. Finals for ages 16 and up and sponsored skaters will be held July 27.

Spectators are welcome to attend the event at South Coast Skate Park. Admission for spectators is \$3.

For more information, call South Coast Skate Park at 228-467-8003



Echo staff photo by Shannon Jenkins
Dylan Brewer, a regular skater at South Coast Skate Park, prepares for an earlier competition at the park. The Hometownrising Amateur Skateboard Contest Series will kickstart its series on May 31 in Waveland.

Point Island Garden Club holds May meeting

The Point Island Garden Club met on May 6 at 2 p.m. in the Sewer Board Building.

The president announced that the Quail Farm Tour was very successful. Three garden clubs and one sorority participated.

The Spanish Trail Garden Club District will meet at 11 a.m. at the Depot in Bay St. Louis. The registration fee is \$15 per person and is due by June 1.

Plans for the national convention in Biloxi were finalized. The club voted to pay the expenses to the convention for the incoming president for the days that she can attend.

Three club members and one spouse planted flowers and shrubbery in the Park on April 26.

A site in the park was selected to place the picnic table. The table is a gift from the Garden Club in honor of

the outgoing president.

On June 17 some of the members will tour the Wildflower Garden on Menge Avenue and then go to lunch.

The chairperson of the nominating committee presented the ballot for officers for the upcoming year. Results of the voting are as follows: president, Maxine Burns; vice president, Susan Schertzer; treasurer, Helen Foster; recording secretary, Margie Butterworth; corresponding secretary, Carol Cunningham; and parliamentarian/historian, Evelyn Winch. The Installation Luncheon will be held at the Acadian Grill on June 3.

The May Garden of the Month was awarded to John and Michelle Clark at 334 Poindexter Drive.

The next meeting will be Sept. 2 at 2 p.m. in the Sewer Board Building.

TOPS MS 233 names monthly winners

TOPS, MS 233 met Tuesday, May 27, at the Waveland Methodist Church located on Central Avenue and Vacation Lane in Waveland.

TOPS best loser for the week was Debbie C. with a loss of 5 pounds.

KOPS best loser was Rose. Youth best loser for the week was Anna with a Turtle. There were 19 present. The gift was won by Jeanette, but cheerfully donated back. Anna Mae was present with a Charm for her 10 pounds weight loss.

In the contest, there was a tie between Pat and Beverly L.

Beverly L. lost the most weight and received a free month. Pat was present with a magnet saying "I am a Winner."

At the area meeting in Latamer, Pat was recognized as the Quarterly Best Loser. Rose, a KOPS, was recognized with the most points and received a Bear. Judy participated in Style Show wearing her nice work suit.

Chris presented the program; the topic was Body Plex.

TOPS, MS 233 meets every Tuesday at the Waveland Methodist Church. Weigh-in is from 5-6 pm with the meeting following.

Anyone interested in losing weight the sensible way and maintaining that weight loss is welcomed to visit the TOPS 233 chapter. For more information about TOPS 233, call Charlotte at 467-5790.

TOPS MS 307 meets, names monthly winners

TOPS MS 307 met Wednesday, May 21, at Triumphant Christian Church in Waveland.

The TOPS best loss for the week was by Rhonda. Best KOPS loss was by Sherri.

Incentive prize was won by Rhonda.

Paula gave a charm to each officer. The program was presented by Verma; the subject was calorie control and exchanges.

Mabel led discussion of interest to all on foods

that improve health and complexion.

TOPS 307 meets every Wednesday afternoon at Triumphant Christian Church at 1807 Waveland Ave.

Weigh-ins are from 4:30 to 5 p.m. with the meeting to follow.

Those interested in losing weight sensibly and keep it off are welcome to visit.

For further information about TOPS MS 307, contact Sherri at 467-3798.

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Minor

Continued from Page 4A

Clear Channel, significantly, has 25 stations in Mississippi, six alone in the Jackson metropolitan market.

Since the FCC allowed monopolization of radio ownership around the country, local news coverage by stations has sharply shrunk, and they have added a heavier dose of nationally syndicated, mostly right-wing, commentators. Plus, listeners are being fed a largely homogenized diet of musical offerings.

Many critics have focused on the power that Clear Channel and other big radio chains hold over recording companies and artists. The latter subject that has brought a hefty lawsuit against Clear Channel from recording artists.

Evidently, many Clear Channel stations have used their local clout in a political way. Recently, during the national debate over whether to launch an invasion of Iraq, Clear Channel stations were beating the drums for war, and hawking support of the Bush Administration.

Most of the pro-war rallies around the country, several media critics have reported, were organized by Clear Channel outlets, coordinated under the name Rally for America.

There's more than political choice that binds Clear Channel's ownership to President Bush. It happens that there have been major ties between Clear Channel owners that go back to Bush's days as governor of Texas.

Tom Hicks, the vice-chairman of Clear Channel, made Bush a multi-millionaire in a 1998 deal when Hicks purchased the Texas Rangers baseball team, at a time Bush was the major owner of the ball club.

Even prior to that,

Hicks as chairman of the University of Texas Investment Management Company, called Utimco, had placed much of the university's endowment under companies with strong Republican or Bush family ties.

Besides the stations Clear Channel owns in the Jackson area, it also owns six stations in the Laurel and Hattiesburg area, as well as stations in Tupelo, Meridian and Booneville.

Ironically, while the two Democratic members of the FCC are leading the opposition to broadening of the multiple media ownership rule, opposition has also come from some leading conservative voices, including that of William Safire of the New York Times.

Safire charged in a column last week that the concentration of power, "whether political, corporate, media, cultural—should be anathema to conservatives."

In an op-ed piece in the Denver Post, conservative Republican U.S. Sen. Wayne Allard of Colorado charged that the latest media consolidation move by the FCC threatens local access, "making it easier for large media corporations to gobble up an even greater share of local media..."

Media giants such as Rupert Murdoch, whose News Corp. owns the Fox network, are among the strongest advocates of the expanded media ownership rule. They, according to The Center for Public Integrity, have been among those lobbying the FCC members with free trips to lovely and expensive places all over the world. Last year Public Integrity reported \$2.8 million was spent by the big media companies winning and dining and paying for trips by members of the FCC or the commis-

sion staff.

Of note is the fact that none of the four major commercial television networks (CBS, ABC, NBC and FOX) which are owned by conglomerates, have touched the story of the proposed FCC action to expand media ownership. Only Public Broadcasting and some newspapers have raised their voices against the move.

By the way, if the new FCC rule is adopted, it would also mean that Clear Channel and other radio mega-companies could get into television ownership in the markets where they already operate radio stations.

Thane Peterson recently wrote in Business Week: "The U.S. needs greater concentration of the media market like a fast-food junkie needs more fat." He's got that right.

What democracy in America is all about is choices. Eliminate competition and diversity, especially in a powerful medium that so vitally shapes our culture and opinions, and democracy suffers.

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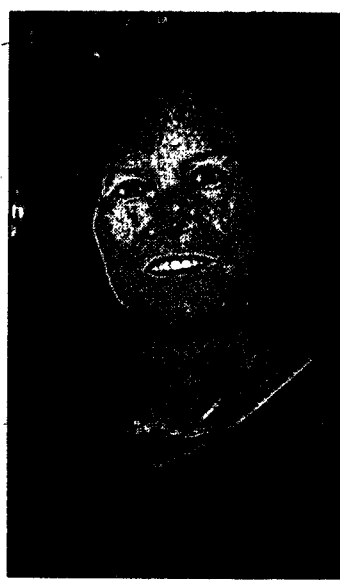
Coster seeks Constable Two

Mary (Izzy) Coster has announced her candidacy for Constable, Place Two in the August Democratic primary.

Coster is a graduate of North Caddo High School, Vivian, LA, and in 1997 received a Certificate from the Harrison County Reserve Police Academy. She served 12 years in the U.S. Air Force. She is the mother of a son and daughter.

She said, "Law enforcement is something I enjoy doing and Hancock County is where I want to be. I currently work with the city of Bay St. Louis, as a Reserve Police Officer, and I thoroughly enjoy working the school events."

"I am starting my seventh year with them, so, I've seen a lot of kids grow up and overall it's a joy to work with them. In addition, I've been work-



MARY (IZZY) COSTER

ing with the County for three years as a Reserve and part time Deputy."

"I decided over 20 years ago that I wanted to raise my family in Hancock County, that's why I chose to stay, now I'm asking Hancock County to choose me and

I will do my best to make Hancock County a safe place for you to raise a family."

"Along with the tasks required as Constable, I want to make the children of Hancock County a priority. By this I mean to establish communications with the Recreation Athletic Booster Clubs and get schedules of events. Working with the other Constables and local agencies I hope to provide a safe environment for our kids to grow."

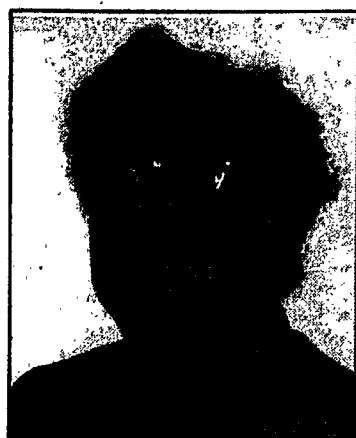
"While campaigning, I'm also trying to get our residences numbered," she said. "It's not often easy to locate someone who needs emergency assistance when there are no numbers on mailboxes or houses. So, when I come by to meet you, if we need to number your mailbox, I hope to assist you."

Prendergast seeks judge's post

Madeline Prendergast has announced her candidacy for Justice Court Judge, Place Two, as an Independent in the November 4, general election.

Prendergast has had extensive experience in the judicial system of the State of Mississippi.

She has worked as a Deputy Chancery Court Clerk for the county for nine years to start her career in the court systems. Then for the past 19 years she has been employed by the City of Bay St. Louis, of which the past 14 years until present, she has been the City Court Clerk.



MADELINE PRENDERGAST

She also was acting Secretary for the Southern Mississippi Lawmen's Association for several

years until the disbanding of the association.

Mrs. Prendergast has been a resident of Hancock County for 41 years. She is a member of Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church and has extensive dealings with the parish.

Her three sons and five grandchildren are all lifelong residents of Hancock County.

In making her announcement she said, "In seeking your support in the General Election on November 4, 2003, I would appreciate your consideration in your casting a vote for me, for the position of Justice Court Judge, Place Two."

Thompson runs for District 5 Super

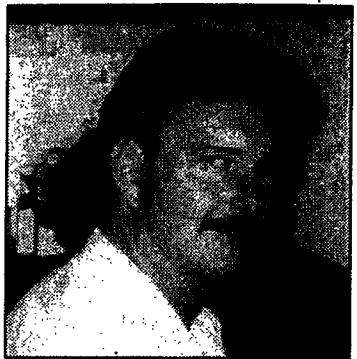
E. Marvin Thompson has announced his candidacy for Hancock County Board of Supervisor, District Five in the 2003 elections.

Thompson, a Republican, is an electrician and employed by Davis International, a contractor with Mississippi Power Company.

He is a native of New

Orleans, graduate of Redemptorist and attended Louisiana Technical College.

In making his announcement for Supervisor, District Five he said, "Are you tired of ditches that don't drain and roads that look like ditches? Elect E. Marvin Thompson, Supervisor, District Five."



E. MARVIN THOMPSON

West seeks District 1, Supervisor's post

Ralph L. West, Jr. has officially announced that he is running as a candidate for Supervisor, District One on the Republican ticket.

West was a member of the New Orleans Fire Department for 22 years, retiring with the rank of captain.

At the fire department he was in charge of the development and administration of the Hazardous Materials Response Team and was its leader.

"Thus experience gives me a broad knowledge of environmental concerns, public safety, homeland security and natural resources," West said.

West further stated, "My concerns are the concerns of the residents of District One and Hancock County, with a better safer county with improved services for all

of our residents. Hancock is growing in leaps and bounds and I feel like I have the tools and abilities to pull us into the Twenty First Century."

West has an associate degree in Fire Technology from Delgado College.

He also has been certified in city management, planning, emergency medical technology, hazardous materials compliance and enforcement, supervision of personnel effectiveness, and railroad derailment and containment of hazmat spillage.

West has an extensive background in problem solving, training, and public safety.

West served in the U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Environmental Protection Division, attaining the rank of Petty Officer 3rd Class. His is a lifetime member of the Louisiana Firemen's Association and



RALPH L. WEST

The Exchange Club.

West had resided on Farrar Lane since 1993, with his wife Margaret. His daughter Vanessa Favre and mother-in-law, Mary Gilmore are also Waveland residents.

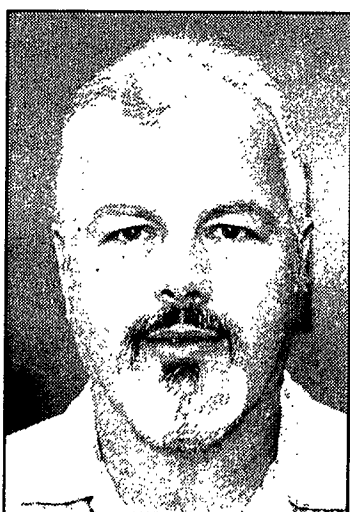
Adam announces for re-election

Judge Ricky Adam of Hancock County Justice Court, Place One, has announced his candidacy for re-election in the 2003 elections.

Adam was elected as Justice Court Judge in a special election held in 2001.

Adam was born in 1958 to Carolyn Ladner Adam and the late Clayton R. Adam, Sr. He has three sisters and five brothers; Karen Necaise, Denise Newman, Arleen Shubert, Brian (Hooty) Adam, Gary Adam, (Scotty) Adam and Craig Adam. He currently resides in Fenton with his wife Tanna and daughters, Morgan and Alissa.

Adam and his family



RICKY ADAM

remain active in many social and civic organizations throughout Hancock County. He enjoys speak-

ing at local schools on our Justice System. Adam recently commented, "I believe it is important to be involved and give back to the community."

In making his announcement, Judge Adam said, "I believe that everyone has the right to be heard by an impartial, open-minded party. I put forth every effort to serve the citizens of Hancock County in a fair and honest manner."

"Having served as your Justice Court Judge over the past 18 months and handling over 200 cases per week, I am the most experienced and qualified person for this position," he added.

Necaise seeks Place One Constable

Constable Terry Necaise of Firetower Road, a native of Kiln, has announced his candidacy for Constable, Place One in the August Democratic primary.

He and his wife Darlene Cuevas Necaise are the parents of two children, Amanda L. Necaise and Brian Necaise S. Necaise.

Necaise and his family are members of Annunciation Catholic Church in Kiln and he and his wife serve as Youth Ministers and CYO advisors.

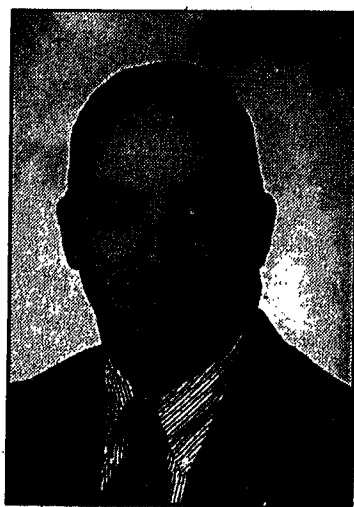
Necaise served in the U.S. Navy for 20 years and retired as a Chief Petty Officer. His commendations included two Joint Service Commendation

Medals, a Navy Achievement Medal, two Joint Meritorious Achievements, and five Good Conduct Medals.

He attended Hancock North Central and Foundation High School in San Diego, California. Necaise serves as a part time deputy with the Hancock County Sheriff's Department.

Necaise is a Naval Science Instructor at Brother Martin High School in New Orleans.

Making his announcement, Necaise said, "As Constable, I will serve all the citizens of Hancock County. I will continue to work with the youth of our community as an advisor



TERRY NECAISE

and mentor, to insure that Hancock County continues to be a great place to live, work and raise a family."

AD VALOREM ADVERTISEMENT AMENDS SECTION 27-39-207 HD 614

THE BAY ST. LOUIS - WAVELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON ITS PROPOSED SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2004 ON JUNE 9, 2003 AT 201 CARROLL AVENUE, BOARD ROOM AT 5:30PM. AT THIS MEETING, A PROPOSED AD VALOREM TAX EFFORT INCREASE SHALL BE CONSIDERED.

THE BAY ST. LOUIS - WAVELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT IS NOW OPERATING WITH PROJECTED TOTAL BUDGET REVENUE OF \$11,035,965. (43%) OR \$4,800,495. OF SUCH REVENUE IS OBTAINED FROM AD VALOREM TAXES. FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR, THE PROPOSED BUDGET HAS A TOTAL PROJECTED REVENUE OF \$12,183,004. OF THAT AMOUNT, (43%) OR \$5,216,260. IS PROPOSED TO BE FINANCED THROUGH A TOTAL AD VALOREM TAX LEVY.

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Water -- Clermont Harbor residents

Continued from Page 1A

bought his vacation home in 1965 and began living there full-time about 10 years ago, had many complaints about his water.

"My wife puts Clorox in every load of clothes," he said. "We still have brown spots on our clothes sometimes from the water."

Hoffman said none of his white clothes are "clean white."

With "dingy" water, Hoffman and his wife have opted to use filters for their icemaker and buy water for consumption.

He once had a filter for his sink, but said he took it off because he had to replace it so often. Hoffman said the filters kept getting contaminated.

Consumption-wise, Hoffman spends about \$35 a month buying water from Abita Springs.

With the water quality aside, Hoffman complained about his water pressure as well.

"Sometimes the dish washer doesn't work because the water pressure is so low," he said.

Other problems include system breakdowns and higher water bills.

"I'd say we have breakdowns a minimum of 15 times per year," Hoffman said. "It usually takes anywhere from two hours to half a day to get the system running again."

Before TESI took over the water system from Johnson Utility in December 2000, Hoffman said the water bill was \$15 per month. Now, his bill is \$19.80 per month.

Hoffman, however, claims TESI has cost him more than just a few extra dollars a month.

About a year ago, Hoffman filed a claim against TESI in civil court for the six Japanese Butterfly Koi that died after he filled his goldfish pond with water. He refilled his pond every six to eight months, and this was the first time any of his fish had died because of the water.

He suspected that TESI had put chlorine in the water.

Hoffman asked for approximately \$575 to replace his fish, which he said can sometimes sell for about \$200 a piece.

Steve Johnson, the manager of Mississippi Facilities for TESI, represented the

company in court. He informed the judge that TESI is not required to notify customers of the addition of any common methods of disinfection other than the water quality pamphlet sent out yearly per the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) requirements.

"In Clermont Harbor, (TESI) uses chlorine to disinfect the system," Johnson told The Sea Coast Echo. "Until TESI took over, the residents did not have the benefit of disinfection systems for their water."

The judge ruled in favor of TESI. Although Hoffman did not get reimbursed for his fish, he does expect TESI to be more consistent with water pressure and purification. Roland Flick, who lives across the street from Hoffman, would like to see improvements as well.

"We can't cook with our water," said Flick, who also became a full-time resident about 10 years ago. "We can't drink it. We're paying more money and not getting better water."

Flick said the water bill increase wasn't much, but when combined with other

bills, costs begin to stack up. Both Hoffman and Flick also complained about often having "Boil Water" advisories.

"We can approach (these problems) realistically," Flick said. "Give us quality water."

Johnson, TESI's representative, said the company is attempting to do just that.

"TESI has invested over \$250,000 in the Clermont Harbor system and continues to work to improve a system that was previously on the verge of complete failure," he said. "We will continue to improve this system and maintain it properly and in accordance with all MSDH and Public Service Commission guidelines."

In response to Hoffman and Flick's issues with the water quality, Johnson said the "system has been difficult to keep in balance because the existing wells had a hard time keeping up with demand."

"Naturally, this would become even worse during a line break or well component failure," he said. "The new well should dramati-

ly improve this situation."

Johnson said the new well, which is located on Long Street, should alleviate many problems once brought on-line in about two to three weeks. The poor water pressure, he said, should also improve from the new well.

As for system breakdowns, Johnson said they can mean different things.

"It can be as simple as a break in a main or as complicated as a failure of a well component," he said.

Johnson said a system failure can result in the need for "Boil Water" advisory, but not in every case.

"The key factor is how low the pressure falls within the system," he said. "We strictly follow MSDH guidelines in the issuance of advisories."

Another concern the Clermont Harbor residents addressed were the system's flush valves. They claim they rarely see TESI officials flushing the system.

Johnson said the system is flushed weekly because it is not completely looped.

"Flush valves are used to keep proper circulation in systems which may not be

completely looped," he said. "They are used to flush the system after a repair as well as on a schedule to maintain consistent water quality throughout the system."

With the concerns about flush valves and water quality, residents also are wary about TESI installing meters in the near future.

Johnson said meters will be installed for all TESI's water customers in Mississippi per MSDH and PSC requirements.

"Customers will be switched to the new metered rates once all meters have been installed in the area and all major upgrades required by our regulators have been completed," he said.

Like Flick, Hoffman continues to be displeased with the water company and the prospect of meters.

"They've got us," Hoffman said. "What can we do?"



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DuPont -- more tests coming

Continued from Page 1A

for laying out the results of a health consultation is not to convince the public that they are wrong in their beliefs, but merely to lay out the results of an investigation based on the data the agency has. And to ask for more data if it is available, Durant said.

The agency is not saying that the report released on deep well injections is all there is to say, said Durant. The agency is also looking at air emissions and dioxin emissions as a possible cause of problems.

"If you guys tell us that there is a high number of illnesses, we believe you," he said. "But it is sometime hard to do any scientifically conclusive studies to prove this."

For the groundwater

studies, the agency used data from three sources, Durant said, the DuPont DeLisle Plant's own data, Department of Health data and individual data.

DuPont officials have publicly said that the plant is doing nothing that is illegal or improper, or would in any way endanger the people or environment of the DeLisle area.

To prove scientifically, that a suspected source of contamination is the culprit, data must establish an exposure pathway which contains five basic elements, agency policy says: A source of the chemical; a way for a chemical to move; a place for human contact; a route of exposure; and a person who could be exposed.

Residents have said that

living in close proximity to the plant as well as working at the plant make exposure to the toxic waste an unmistakable conclusion.

But the agency says it needs more help and more data.

"We are a public health information agency," said agency toxicologist Frank Schnell. "Our goal here is to protect the public health. The source of contamination is very important to people in the area, but secondary to us. We just want to end the source."

Right now the agency is only looking at DuPont DeLisle, he said, because that is the possible source it has been asked to investigate.

"We are not asking that

people accept our conclusions," said Durant. "We don't go into a community expecting people to trust us. We would like people to walk away from the consultations feeling a little more empowered and a little more informed about environmental issues."

The agency is accepting written comments on the water report until June 9. A complete copy of the report is available for inspection in the Pass Christian Library. Next Thursday's Public Meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the Pass Christian Council room at 200 West

Scenic Dr. For more information call 1-888-42ATSDR and mention the DuPont DeLisle Health Consultation.

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MDEQ
re-opens
closed
beaches

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has received notice from the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL), which performs routine water sampling of the Mississippi Gulf Coast beaches for the agency, that four Gulf Coast beaches can be reopened.

The reopened beaches are:

Station 6: Harrison County (at Church Avenue, Pass Christian) closed from Henderson Avenue east to Hiern Avenue.

Station 11: Harrison County (at 1/Lorraine Road, Gulfport) closed from Southern Circle east to DeBuss Road. (This closure is between station 11 and station 12).

Station 11: Harrison County (at 1/Lorraine Road, Gulfport) closed from Laurel Drive east to Anniston Avenue.

Station 9: Harrison County (at Pratt Avenue, Gulfport) closed from 19th Avenue east to Thornton Avenue.

Repeated testing in these areas has found that it is safe to resume swimming and other recreational activities in these waters and along the beach.

For more information please go to the Mississippi Beach Monitoring Program website at www.deq.state.ms.us.

Assault

Continued from Page 1A

to Hancock Medical Center, and later transferred to Gulf Coast Community Center, in Biloxi," Garber said. "Jacob never regained consciousness. An autopsy was performed and the medical examiner ruled that the cause of Jacob's death was from a blow to the head by a blunt instrument."

"Investigation has deter-

mined that the victim received the head injury from an assault that occurred on Harbor Drive around midnight on Friday, May 16," Garber stated.

The Hancock County Criminal Investigative team is handling the investigation, with John E. Luther as the lead investigator.

The Arts organization

The fledgling arts organization, The Arts: Hancock County, Mississippi, announced its interim officers and board members and unveiled its website at a meeting on May 28 at the Bay St. Louis Library.

The organization for visual artists, artisans, writers and performing artists will serve as a non-profit umbrella organization to promote and supports the arts as an economic and community development tool. The Arts, spearheaded by Gwen Thompson, is working in partnership with the county's Chamber of Commerce, Library System and Tourism Development Bureau.

The organization plans to work with the schools to support arts education and will coordinate arts-related activities and events throughout the county for both adults and children, Thompson said.

"Hancock County is a treasure trove with so many various artists," she said. "We want to bring them all together, to support them and to spread the word about this treasure trove."

Also on Wednesday, David Wodburn reported on the status of the membership drive and Harrison Miner will have samples of the artist profiles that will be included in the Website and also published in a artists' directory.

Membership is offered in six categories: Individual artists, \$25; arts friends, \$40; arts businesses, \$50; arts associations, \$75; arts patrons, \$100 to \$500; and arts ambassadors, \$500 and over.

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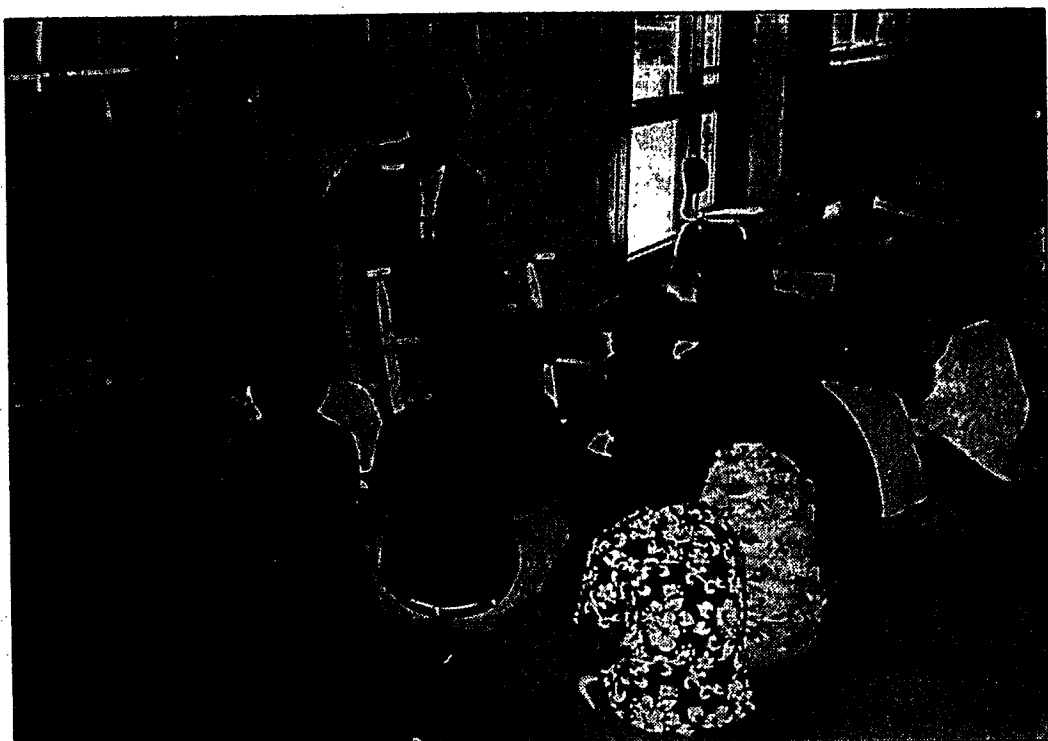
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The Sea Coast Echo

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Reading is fundamental at Waveland Elementary



Waveland Elementary is a Reading Is Fundamental (R.I.F.) school. Every child in our school received four free R.I.F. books. In addition, those that obtained their goal in Accelerated Reader received a book. The first two distributions, held in November and February, allowed all children to select one book and the last distribution, held in April, allowed all the children to select two R.I.F. books. "Waveland Elementary is very fortunate to be a part of this program and hopes to continue next year," according to school Principal Rebecca McCaleb. "Our students need to read and read well, this program allows us to obtain our goal. The 2002-2003 school year saw 1,608 books go out to children in our community. This has gotten them excited about reading."



Register now for Pass Library summer reading program

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Registration continues through June 16. Pick up your registration form at the library.

Reading Records:

At registration, each child will be given a reading log to record the books they read during the summer. Children who are not yet able to read may keep a record of the books read aloud to them.

*Reading records are to be taken home by the children.

*Reading records must be turned in by July 16, 2003 at the front desk.

Certificates:

Children who earn a reading certificate by logging their books on the reading record will also earn one free admission to each of the following museums: Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, Walter Anderson Museum of Art and George Ohr Arts & Cultural Center.

*You must have your Reading Certificate with you to receive free admission.

*Certificates will be given out at the awards party July 22, 2003 at 1:00 pm.

Awards:

Every time a child checks

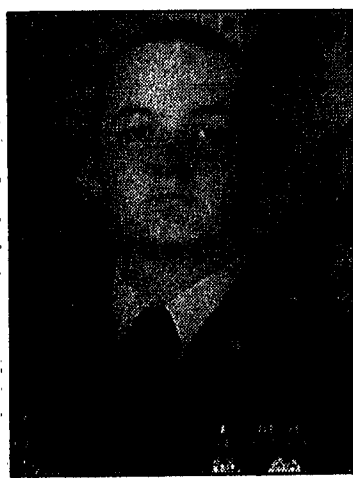
out and reads 10 easy readers or 2 Juvenile Fiction or Non Fiction books he or she will receive a chance for the prizes that will be drawn at the Awards Party on July 22, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. Prizes include tickets to the Audubon Zoo, Aquarium of the Americas, Buccaneer Water Park, and Marine Life.

Ages for Participation:

Pre School to 2nd grade - 10 Easy readers

3rd grade through entering 7th grade - 2 Juvenile Non Fiction books.

All events are free, see calendar for schedule of events.



Sgt. Daniel Marasco

Sgt. Daniel W. Marasco named non-com officer of the 3rd, 4th quarter

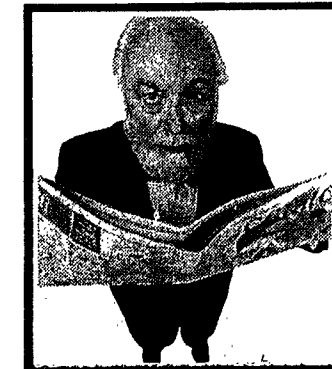
THE SEA COAST ECHO
Sgt. Daniel W. Marasco has been named a Non Commissioned Officer for the third and fourth quarter at Fort Polk, LA where he is a part of the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment.

Sgt. Marasco has been station here right out of basic training in Fort Knox, KY. Daniel is a high hon-

ored graduate of Harrison Central High School, Class of 2000.

Daniel is the son of Jerry and Darla Marasco of Waveland; grandson of the late Pascal and Geneva Marasco of Long Beach and Geo and Mertye Deitrick of Defuniak Spring, FL.

Daniel is engaged to Krystal Thompson of LA.



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Numerous 6th grade students look on as Welding Instructor John Cranmer (right) explains information about various types of welding equipment used by students at the Vo-Tech Center.

HMS sixth grade visits Hancock Co. Vo-Tech Center

THE SEA COAST ECHO

On April 11 Hancock Middle School 6th grade students visited the Hancock County Vo-Tech Center to learn about current course offerings and expand their knowledge of careers and career opportunities through the hands-on learning at the Vo-Tech Center. The tour, made pos-

sible through the district's School-to-Careers grant, allowed students to visit four classrooms in a specific cluster area. The three areas were Cluster I - Business & Computer Technology, Technology Applications, Drafting, and Health; Cluster II - Child Care, Food Service, Lodging & Hospitality, and

Cooperative Education-Cluster III - Auto Mechanics, Building Trades, Metal Trades, and Welding. The 6th grade students will tour the Vo-Tech Center again during their freshman year of high school to determine if available course offerings will be taken during the junior and senior years.

Bay-Waveland Yacht Club offers sailing lessons for children ages 9 & up

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The Bay-Waveland Yacht Club will be holding its sailing day camp again this year for member and non-member children nine years and older.

The campers will learn about sailing or improve

sailing skills already attained, and learn boat handling and boat safety.

Other activities will include swimming and games. Each two-week session will be limited to twenty campers with the first session beginning June 3.

The sessions will run Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

Call the Bay-Waveland Yacht Club for more details, (228) 467-4592, or visit the web site at www.bwyc.org, scroll down and click on "summer sailing camp."

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*Stennis Institute Survey.



Obituaries

DONALD AMACKER
GROVER BOWERS
MARK CRAIG
ANNIE CUEVAS
RUBY JOHNSON
RUBY J. JOHNSON
VERONICA LABAT
KASHLEEN LABBE
ENRITE LANDRY
BERYL NETTO
RUTH SEYMOUR

DONALD AMACKER
Donald E. Amacker, 59, died Monday, May 26, 2003, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Amacker was a native of Poplarville and a long time resident of Long Beach before moving to Bay St. Louis nine years ago. He graduated in 1961 from Long Beach High and attended Mississippi State University. He was retired from NAVO at Stennis Space Center in 1995 after 20 years of service. He was a Baptist.

Mr. Amacker was preceded in death by his father, Clinton L. Amacker, and beloved niece, Teresa Lynelle Lemon.

Survivors include his mother, Dixie Amacker, of Bay St. Louis; three brothers, Thomas C. Amacker and Douglas F. Amacker, both of Long Beach, and Larry Young of Gulfport; three sisters, Judy Lemon and Kathy Fedele, both of Bay St. Louis, and Patricia Pierro of Las Vegas, Nev.; and eight nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be today at 11 a.m. at Riemann Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis. Burial will follow at Juniper Grove Cemetery in Poplarville.

Riemann Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

GROVER BOWERS

Grover Carlisle Bowers, 56, of Columbus, S.C., died Monday, May 26, 2003, in Columbia.

He retired from the U. S. Navy after 22 years of service having served 15 years at Gulfport Naval Construction Seabee Base. He was a member of

Calvary Baptist Church in Columbia.

He is survived by his wife, Gloria Triche Bowers, of Columbia; a daughter, Cynthia Cuevas of Diamondhead; a son, Miles Scott Plaisance of Columbia; two sisters, Polly Turner of Conway, S.C., and Lorraine Elvington of Tampa, Fla.; three brothers, Mike Bowers, Duane Bowers, both of Dillon, S.C., and Bernie Bowers of Conyers, Ga.; six grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and a godchild.

Visitation will be today from 12:30 until 2:30 p.m. at Bradford-O'Keefe Funeral Home in Gulfport. A procession will leave at 2:30 going to Biloxi National Cemetery for a graveside service at 3 p.m. with full military honors.

MARK CRAIG

Mark S. Craig, 48, of Gulfport, died Sunday, May 25, 2003, in Gulfport.

Mr. Craig was a native of Bay St. Louis and a life long resident of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. He graduated in 1973 from Bay Senior High and graduated from the University of South Mississippi. At the time of his death he was in computer information services at Ingall's Shipyard. Prior to that he was a restaurant manager in South Mississippi for 25 years. He was a Protestant.

Mr. Craig is survived by his wife, Belinda "Bennie" Craig, of Gulfport; his parents, Clyde and Era Ann Salvant Craig of Bay St. Louis; a son, Ben Craig; two daughters, Stephanie and her husband, David D. Williams, and Elizabeth Craig, all of Gulfport; four brothers, Tim Craig of Bay Minette, Ala., Paul Craig of Biloxi, Jimmy Craig of Long Beach and Matt Craig of Port Clinton, Ohio; one grandchild, Osanna Craig, and close friend Paul Backe of Alexandria, Va.

A memorial service was held Wednesday at Riemann Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis. The family requests memorial contributions to one's favorite charity.

Riemann Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis was in charge of arrangements.

ANNIE CUEVAS

Annie Maud Cuevas, 80, of Catahoula Community died May 25, 2003, in Biloxi.

She was a native of Dedeaux Community and lifelong resident of Catahoula Community. She was a member of the Catahoula Baptist Church and life member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary Post #6285, Kiln.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Tunas T. Cuevas; her parents, Alphonse and Maggie Garriga Necaise; 11 brothers, Fouston, Nelson, James "Jim," Ivy, Bernie, Ervin, Mavin, A.D., John, Jack and Cecil Necaise; and a sister, Willie Mae Seal.

Survivors include four sons, Gene Cuevas of Picayune, Roger Dale Cuevas of Picayune, Gary Cuevas of Standard Community and Roland Cuevas of Picayune; four brothers, Donald Necaise of Lizana Community and Clarence, Raymond and Lonnie Necaise, all of Dedeaux Community; 11 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren.

Services were held Tuesday at Catahoula Baptist Church in Picayune. Interment followed in Catahoula Church Cemetery.

RUBY JOHNSON

Ruby Johnson, 60, died Sunday, May 25, 2003, at Singing River Hospital in Pascagoula. Funeral services were held Wednesday in the chapel of Baldwin-Lee with burial following in Dry Creek Cemetery in Thomasville.

Mrs. Johnson was a member of Dry Creek Baptist Church and was employed by Casino Magic in Bay St. Louis. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother.

Survivors include her husband Gerl Johnson of Bay St. Louis; daughter Jennifer Nicole Johnson of Bay St. Louis; brothers, Ronald May of Brandon and Robert Earl Summer of Jena, La.; sisters, Roody Hudgins of Star, Faye Faulkner of Richland and Florence O'Neil of West Point; two grandchildren Keegan Johnson and Sage Pierson; and several nieces and nephews.

RUBY JEWEL JOHNSON

Ruby Jewel Johnson, 90, of Diamondhead died Sunday, May 25, 2003, in Bay St. Louis.

She was a long-time resident of Carthage prior to moving to Waveland 30 years ago. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Bay St. Louis and the Philos Group. She was a Brownie Scout leader, a member of the Day Lilly Society International, and active in the Genealogical Society of Smith County, Miss.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Herman T. Johnson; parents, Harrison and Maggie Lee Dobbs Keyes; five brothers, Ralph, J.D., Dailey, Harvey and Vardaman Keyes; three sisters, Ethel Westbrook, Ruth Beard and Carrie Eisenbach.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Donita "Dee" and Dr. M.L. Dodson of Diamondhead; four grandchildren and spouses, Mindy and Wade Nation of Pass Christian, Diane and James Schober of Diamondhead, Tony and Carrie Dodson of Houston, Texas, and Kathy and Stan Pace of Pass Christian; nine great grandchildren, Lindsay Nation, Jonathan Nation, Daniel Schober, Lauren Schober, David Pace, Leslie Pace, Emily

Pace, Alyssa Pace and Katie Dodson.

Services were private on Tuesday, May 27, at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis.

The family prefers donations to the Baptist Children's Village, P.O. Box 27, Clinton, MS 39060.

VERONICA LABAT

Veronica Euphrasie Labat, 90, died Monday, May 26, 2003, in Bay St. Louis.

Miss Labat was a resident of Bay St. Louis and New Orleans.

She was a retired secretary. She was a member of St. Rose de Lima Catholic Church in Bay St. Louis and Our Lady of Lourdes in New Orleans.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Leanora Labat, and all of her siblings; Inez, Fabian, Joseph Summer, Portia, Lucien, Celestine, Victor, Elise Webster, Sylvia Randall, Chlotilde Yancey.

Miss Labat is survived by a host of nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held today from 10 to 11 a.m. A Mass of Resurrection will follow at 11 a.m. at St. Rose de Lima Catholic Church.

Interment will be at Cedar Rest Cemetery in Bay St. Louis. J.T. Hall Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

KASHLEEN LABBE

Kashleen Mary Labbe, 76 died Tuesday, May 27, 2003 in Bay St. Louis.

She was a native of Lafayette, LA and a resident of Hancock County for the past 30 years. She was of the Catholic Faith and a Member of Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church in Bay St. Louis.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul W. Labbe; and her parents, Ernest & Edna Landry.

Survivors include a son, Paul Watson Labbe of Bay St. Louis; a daughter, Kashleen Mary Labbe of Bay St. Louis; a sister Mary Fonteno of Algiers, LA; 5 grandchildren, Wendy Jacob, Dee Nuccio, Travis Nuccio, Randi Labbe, Christine Labbe.

A Visitation will be held Friday, May 30, 2003 from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis. The Prayer Service will be held Friday, May 30, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. at the Edmond Fahey Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Live Oak Cemetery in Pass Christian. Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of the arrangements.

ENRITE LANDRY

Enrite D. Landry Sr. 84, died Wednesday, May 21, 2003, in Pass Christian. Services are pending at J.T. Hall Funeral Home in Gulfport.

BERYL NETTO

Beryl Denison Netto, 84, died Saturday, May 24, 2003.

OBITS--PAGE 12A

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For more information including preplanning and many other options, please call us at 467-4242 or visit Riemann Funeral Home 229 Highway 90 East, Bay St. Louis.

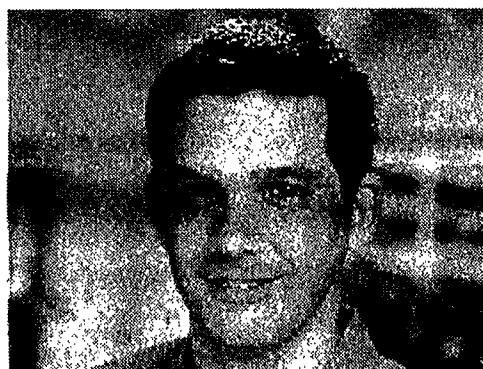
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In Memory



Trevor J. Perron

May 28, 1989 - September 6, 2002

We only wish we had some way by which to let you know, that you are in our hearts today, and that we miss you so.

"Happy Birthday"

Mom, Dad, Kris & Family

In Memory



Trevor J. Perron

May 28, 1989 - September 6, 2002

We only wish we had some way by which to let you know, that you are in our hearts today, and that we miss you so.

"Happy Birthday"

Mom, Dad, Kris & Family

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National Dance Institute coming to coast for fifth year

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The Division of Education and Psychology and the Division of Continuing Education at The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast are collaborating to bring instructors from the National Dance Institute (NDI) in New York to the Coast this summer.

"Do You Want to Dance," a two-week dance residency for students in grades four through seven, will be offered June 23-July 3 at

the Bay St. Louis High School Auditorium in Bay St. Louis.

"This summer will be our fifth year to have the National Dance Institute on the Gulf Coast," said Dr. Nancy Masztal, professor of education. "To celebrate our fifth year, we will host a reunion for all children and graduate students who have previously participated in this outstanding event."

The reunion will be held July 3 during the dance residency's gala performance

and will be held at the Bay High School Auditorium, Bay St. Louis.

The NDI summer dance residency provides access to the arts for children. It is an opportunity for racially diverse middle-grades children, regardless of socioeconomic status or prior dance experience, to receive free dance instruction for a two-week period from master teachers of dance on the Gulf Coast.

Registration for the camp is \$50 per person. It is open

to the first 50 students who register. The daily hours of the two-week camp are from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Along with the middle grades children, NDI will continue to collaborate with Southern Miss' Gulf Coast faculty and graduate students for the class "Maximizing Performance: A philosophies used by the founder of NDI, Jacques d'Amboise, recipient of the Congressional Arts Medal and Kennedy Center

Honors.

"I am thrilled to announce that Jacques d'Amboise will be with us this year to work with the children and be a guest speaker in the graduate class," said Masztal. "Jacques has such charisma and knowledge - the graduate students get such a different perspective on teaching, learning and life through their opportunity to listen and interact with him."

This educational oppor-

tunity is supported by the Mississippi Arts Commission, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the National Endowment of the Arts, the Bay St. Louis-Waveland School District and Southern Miss Gulf Coast.

To RSVP for the reunion, to register for dance residency, or for more information, call the Southern Miss Gulf Coast division of Continuing Education at 228-867-8777.

Obituaries

2003, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Netto was a lifelong resident of Gulfport. She was a retired nurse and a member of St. John Catholic Church in Gulfport.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Leland J. Netto Sr.; two sisters, Ethel White and Nanell Scheeler; and one brother, Dudley Denison.

She is survived by one daughter, Elizabeth Y. Swartz of Kent, Wash.; seven sons, Leland J. Netto Jr. of Gulfport, John M. Netto of New Orleans, Christian C. Netto of Bay St. Louis, Phillip A. Netto of Gulfport, Francis A. Netto of Decatur, Ga., Michael M. Netto of Gulfport, and George A. Netto of Gulfport; one brother, Oscar Denison of California, and 18 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was held Wednesday at St. John Catholic Church in Gulfport. Interment was in Coalville Cemetery, Harrison County.

Bradford O'Keefe Funeral Home in Gulfport was in charge of arrangements.

Thompson.

Survivors include her husband, Vernon F. Seymour Sr.; her children, Mary E. Biehl; Vernna F. Moore and husband, Eddie; Vernon F. Seymour Jr. and wife, Charmaine; and William J. Seymour; two brothers, George H. Thompson and Robert J. Thompson; caregiver, Bonnie A. Stringer; grandchildren, Michael R. Cox Jr. and wife, Melissa; Albert D. Biehl IV and wife, Tasha; Ruth M. Lemmon and Chris Marek; Shaun T. Fowler; Alycia G. Harper and husband, Matthew; Amanda E. Seymour; Nora Seymour;

Samantha D. Seymour; William J. Seymour II; Victoria R. Seymour; Nichole Valenti and Joseph Valenti.

Great grandchildren include Lynn M. Saucier, Amber R. Harper, Dennis R. Lemmon, Brea Biehl, Mike Biehl, Dillon Biehl, Michael R. Cox III and Gabrielle Dianna Cox.

Services were held at St. Rose De Lima Catholic Church on May 28 followed by a Mass of Christian burial. Interment was in the Garden of Memory Cemetery in Bay St. Louis.

Public Notices

Public Notices

SUBSTITUTED TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE
WHEREAS, on February 9, 2001, Thomas E. Richardson and Judy P. Richardson executed a certain deed of trust to Calvin C. Mann, Jr., Trustee for the benefit of NORTH AMERICAN MORTGAGE COMPANY which deed of trust is of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hancock County, State of Mississippi in Book 620, Page 166; and

WHEREAS, Washington Mutual Bank, FA successor by merger to North American Mortgage Company has heretofore substituted J. Gary Massey as Trustee by instrument dated April 17, 2003 and recorded in the aforesaid Chancery Clerk's Office in record in Book 755 at Page 549; and

WHEREAS, default having been made in the terms and conditions of said deed of trust and the entire debt secured thereby having been declared to be due and payable in accordance with the terms of said deed of trust, Washington Mutual Bank, FA successor by merger to North American Mortgage Company, the legal holder of said indebtedness, having requested the undersigned Substituted Trustee to execute the trust and sell said land and property in accordance with the terms of said deed of trust and for the purpose of raising the sums due thereunder, together with attorney's fees, trustee's fees and expense of sale.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. Gary Massey, Substituted Trustee in said deed of trust, will on May 30, 2003 offer for sale at public outcry and sell within legal hours (being between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.) at the Main door of the County Courthouse of Hancock County, located at Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, to the highest and best bidder for cash the following described property situated in Hancock County, State of Mississippi, to-wit:

Lots Two (2) and Three (3), Block One (1), Re-Plat of Unit 9, Phase II, Diamondhead, a subdivision according to the official map or plat thereon on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hancock County, Mississippi, in Plat Book 4 at Page 103-104.

The above described property is also subject to that certain Deed of Trust recorded in the aforesaid Chancery Clerk's office in Book 475 Page 732.

I WILL CONVEY only such title as vested in me as Substituted Trustee.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE on May 1, 2003.

J. Gary Massey
Shapiro & Massey, L.L.P.
1910 Lakeland Drive, Suite B
Jackson, MS 39216
(601) 981-9299
05/06, 05/15, 05/22, 05/29/03

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HANCOCK
SUBSTITUTED TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

WHEREAS, on the 19th day of January, 1994, Scott A. Payne and wife, Donna Payne, executed a Deed of Trust to Janice H. Goff, Trustee for the benefit of Stuart Company, a Mississippi Corporation, which said Deed of Trust is recorded in Land Trust Deed Book 403, Pages 558-561, in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hancock County, Mississippi, and

WHEREAS, Stuart Company, a Mississippi Corporation, substituted in the place and stead of the aforementioned Trustee, Charlene Roberts, by instrument dated May 15, 2003, and recorded in Land Trust Deed Book 761, Page 564, of the aforesaid records; and

WHEREAS, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust and Stuart Company, a Mississippi Corporation, the holder of the Note and Deed of Trust, having requested the undersigned Substituted Trustee to do so, I, on the 20th day of June, 2003, offer for sale at public outcry and sell during the legal hours, between 11:00 a.m. o'clock and 4:00 p.m. o'clock, at the Front Door of the County Courthouse of Hancock County at Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, for cash to the highest bidder, the following described property lying and being situated in Hancock County, Mississippi, being more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

Begin at the SE corner of Lot 4 of Deer Park Subdivision, as per map or plat on file in the Office of the Chancery Clerk of Hancock County, Mississippi, and then run North 00 degrees 37 minutes East 401.65 feet; thence run South 85 degrees 02 minutes West 532.0 feet; thence run South 04 degrees 10 minutes West 405.09 feet; thence run North 85 degrees 02 minutes East 557.2 feet to the point of beginning. The property contains 5.0 acres, more or less.

I will convey only such title as vested in me as such Substituted Trustee.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, upon this, the 22nd day of May, A.D., 2003.

CHARLENE ROBERTS,
Substituted Trustee
05/29; 06/05; 06/12; 06/19/03

LOOK

ON THE WEB
SEA COAST ECHO

LEGAL NOTICES

www.mspublicnotices.com

EDWARD C. DUNBAR
Edward Clark Dunbar,
63, of Bay St. Louis, died
Friday, May 16, 2003, in
Bay St. Louis.

Burial services will be private.

Edmond Fahey
Funeral Home in Bay St.
Louis is in charge of
arrangements.

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Continued from Page 9A

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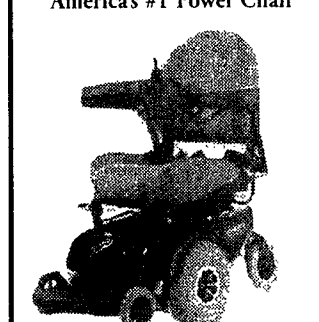
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BUSINESS NEWS

First minivan rolls off assembly line at new \$1.4 billion Nissan plant Tuesday in Canton

BY BARBARA POWELL
ASSOCIATED PRESS
WRITER

CANTON, Miss. (AP) — Nissan Motor Co.'s \$1.4 billion investment in an assembly plant in Mississippi came amid high enthusiasm among local officials, company President Carlos Ghosn said Tuesday as production began.

Ghosn told reporters on hand for the opening of the plant, Nissan's first new U.S. plant since 1983, that for Nissan the timing was essential and the 2000 announcement of a site came after executives were sure of success with the automaker's revival plan.

"We wanted a state where we would have strong support from the community," Ghosn said, "where the work force would be abundant, where there was good infrastructure and if we wanted to expand it would be no problem."

More than 300 Nissan executives were on hand, along with Mississippi elected officials and hoards of international media, to watch the first 2004 Nissan Quest minivan roll off the assembly line.

Ghosn said Gov. Ronnie Musgrove and the state's congressional delegation proved to be enthusiastic boosters of Mississippi.

He said they were "all motivated and we felt like this would not be a case of enthusiastic reception."

Alongside Ghosn and Musgrove, other dignitaries led by U.S. Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., watched as the Quest bursts through a paper barrier, the first tangible product of more than two years of construction on the 3.5 million-square-foot plant.

Mississippians are rolling out a big down-home welcome for the Japanese automaker.

The night before the opening, Ghosn and other Nissan executives were served grilled chicken and steak on the lawn of the Governor's Mansion. Tuesday, they and other invited guests were offered smoked pork-butt sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans, sweet tea and apple cobbler, and some home-grown Mississippi music talent.

Also on hand were more than two dozen Nissan suppliers who will serve the plant, as well as the 1,950 plant employees hired so far. The assembly plant, when it reaches its full production capacity in 2004 of 400,000 vehicles a year, will have as many as 5,300 workers.

The plant will make Quest minivans; Nissan's first full-size truck, the Titan; its first full-size sport utility vehicles, the Nissan Pathfinder Armada and an

Infinity version; and the Altima sedan.

After months of scerby talking up the much-needed economic boost the Nissan plant will give to the state, Mississippi officials can't stop smiling. After all, this will be the state's first auto assembly plant, and it will be one of the nation's largest in size and production capacity.

"No doubt we'll be bragging all over the place. We've already done a lot of that," said Robert Rohrlack, executive director of the Mississippi Development Authority, which negotiated for the state to lure Nissan. "Everybody will be a little giddy."

State officials consider the \$363 million in direct incentives they gave Nissan to be a fair trade off for creating much-needed manufacturing jobs, and for showing other corporations what Mississippi can do.

"When the Nissan facility opens Tuesday, the world will be watching, and they will see what can be done in Mississippi," Musgrove said.

Just a few miles up the road from the plant, the town of Canton, population 12,911, is putting on its own celebration: Three nights of food and music, hot air balloons, face painting and displays of Nissan vehicles, past, present and future.

"This is our way to welcome Nissan to be a part of our community, to show we're glad Nissan chose Canton to be their home," Canton Mayor Fred Esco said.

DMR wins 3 national awards

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR) received three national awards at the annual National Association of Government Communicators (NAGC) Communications School held recently in New Orleans.

The DMR is one of just 60 government agencies in the United States to earn the prestigious Blue Pencil Award at this year's annual NAGC Blue Pencil/Gold Screen Awards banquet, which recognizes excellence in written, filmed, audio/video-taped, published and photographed government information products.

The following awards were presented to the DMR: Second Place was presented to the DMR Public Affairs Bureau in the category Visual Communications/Calendar for the "2002 Preserving and Enjoying Mississippi's Coastal Resources Calendar." Second Place was presented to the DMR Public Affairs Bureau in the category Special Communications/Shoestrin Budget for its "Comprehensive Resource

Management Plan Data Release Press Kit," and an Honorable Mention was presented to the DMR Public Affairs Bureau and Coastal Preserves Bureau in the category Publications, Brochures/Booklets for the "Exploring Mississippi's Coastal Habitats Brochure."

More than 500 entries were received. Entries were judged on production, writing, editorial content, layout and design, and quality and creativity.

Entries were also reviewed to determine that they achieved the purpose for which they were produced, that they served the needs of their target audiences and that they represented a cost effective use of financial and other resources.

Lauren Thompson, the DMR's Public Relations Director, accepted the awards on behalf of the DMR's Public Affairs and Coastal Preserves bureaus. "Our goal is to educate the public about the intrinsic value of our marine resources and to inspire them to be better stewards of our coastal environment,"

Thompson said. "The recognition is especially meaningful because it comes from our peers-federal, state and local government communications professionals who disseminate information within and outside government."

NAGC is the only organization for, by and about government communicators and communications. Its members are guided by a professional code of ethics, which demands complete and timely communication between government and the people it serves.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the State by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at www.dmr.state.ms.us

Memorial Hospital names Marchand president/CEO

Memorial Hospital's Board of Trustees has named Gary Marchand President and Chief Executive Officer.

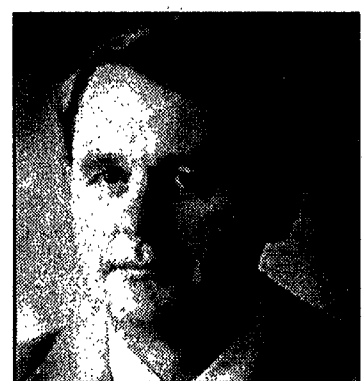
Marchand has been employed by Memorial since 1991. He has served in the capacity of Chief Financial Officer and most recently served as Executive Vice President of Corporate and Financial Services.

Marchand's background consists of 15 years experience as a health care executive and 10 years of practice as a Certified Public Accountant.

Prior to Memorial, he served as Vice President of Finance at Touro Infirmary, New Orleans. Marchand received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from the University of New Orleans, where he was a member of the Beta Alpha Psi Honor Society. He is a veteran of the United States Air Force.

His professional memberships include the National Association of Public Hospitals, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Healthcare Roundtable and the Healthcare Financial Management Association.

Marchand also serves on



GARY MARCHAND

the boards of several health care related entities, which include managed care, outpatient surgery, and physician development activities.

A Paul Harris Fellow with the Gulfport Rotary Club and a member of the Gulfport Business Club, he is also a member of St. John the Evangelist Church and serves on the Development Committee of St. John Elementary School.

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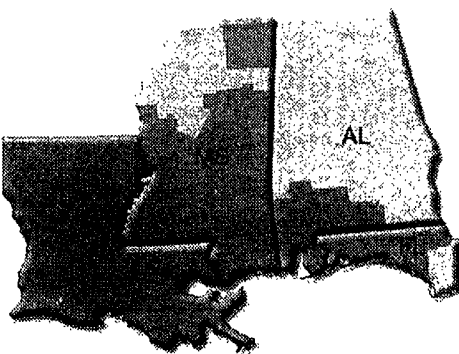
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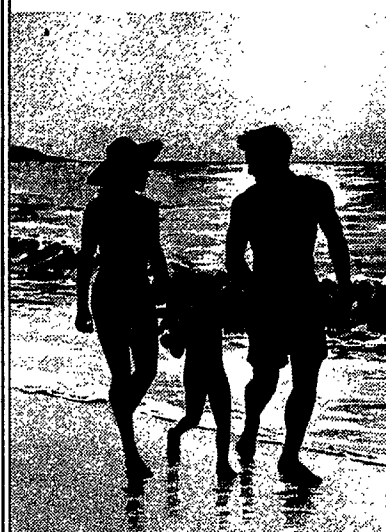
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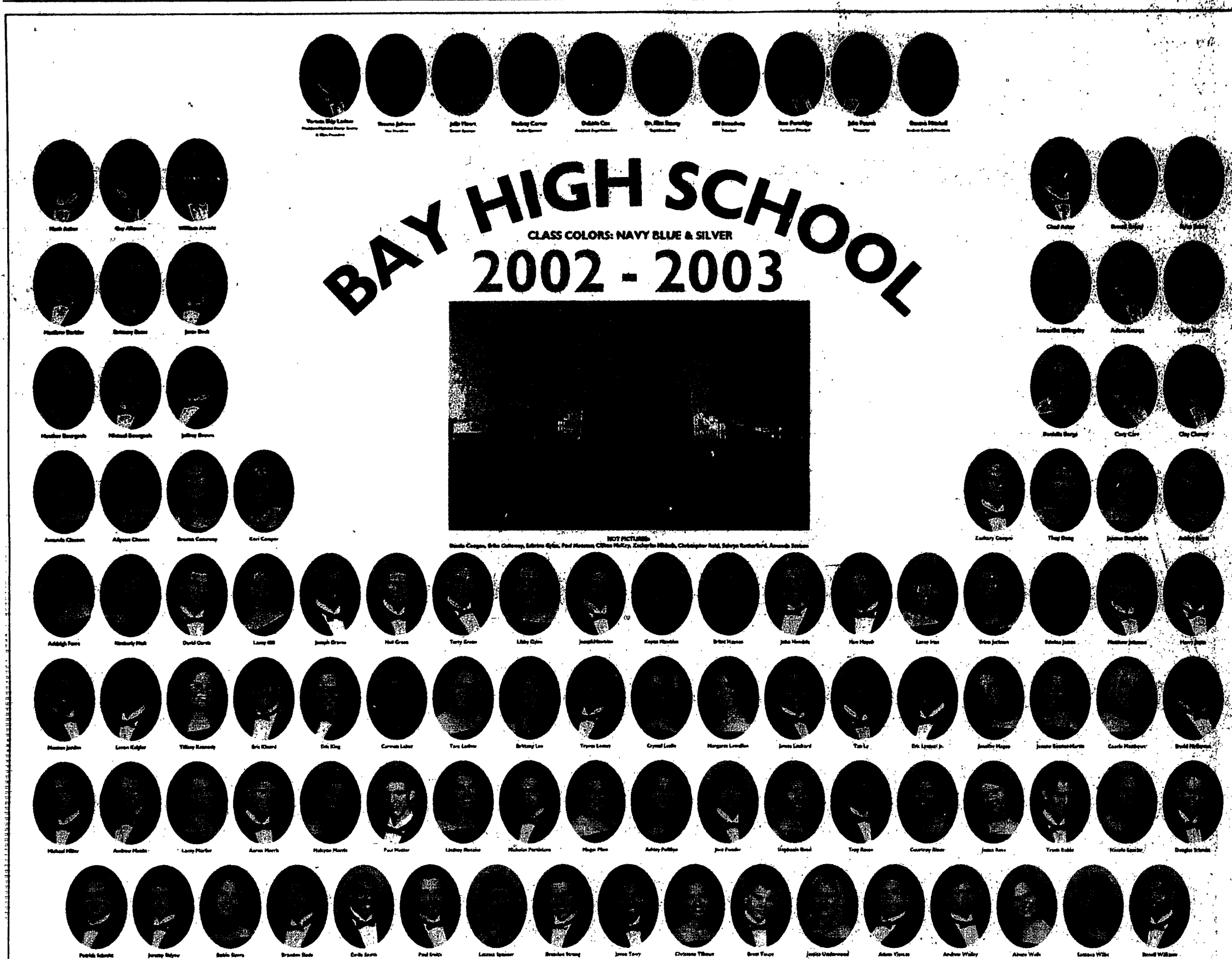
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B.H.S. Class of 2001 donates gazebo

The Bay High School graduating class of 2001 has donated a gazebo to the high school. It has been placed in the courtyard. It was purchased prior to their May 2001 graduation, but was only recently constructed.

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pg 1B

Japanese irises yield summer colors



SOUTHERN GARDENING
BY NORMAN WINTER
MSU Horticulturist
Central Mississippi
Research & Extension
Center

The past few years have given me a new appreciation for the various iris species available to Southern gardeners. With careful selection, we can enjoy a long season of iris blooms.

Everyone ought to consider the Japanese iris, known botanically as *Iris ensata*. It complements the Louisiana and Siberian irises with toughness, beauty and blooms that are born in glorious summer displays after the other irises have finished. They flourish from zones 4 to 9.

The Japanese iris produces large blossoms in shades of blue, pink, white and purple, with bicolored stripes, veins and blotches. They are available in single, double- and peony-flower forms. They are also tall, reaching 24 to 30 inches in height. These are a must for extending your iris season. The foliage -- bright green with a prominent rib -- is equally attractive.

Japanese irises perform best with at least six hours of sunlight per day. The soil should be fertile, organic-rich and acidic. Tightly compacted soils yield an inferior, stunted-looking plant. If this describes your soil (like it does mine), you should amend with 3 to 4 inches of organic matter and till to a depth of 6 to 8 inches.

While tilling, incorporate 3 pounds of a 5-10-5 fertilizer per 100 square feet of planting area. Container-grown irises that you see in the spring and summer can be set out at any time during the growing season at the same depth they are growing in the container. Space the plants 12 to 18 inches apart. In the fall, plant rhizomes just below the soil surface.

Japanese irises are heavy feeders, so give light applications of a 12-6-6 fertilizer in the early spring and every four to six weeks throughout the summer. Do not let plants dry out after fertilizing, as this will quickly bum plant roots. Keep the soil evenly moist during the growing season.

The best blooming occurs on 2- and 3-year-old clumps. Plants under good culture require dividing in the spring or fall every three to four years. Maintain a good layer of mulch year-round to conserve moisture and to moderate soil temperatures.

The Japanese iris com-

GARDEN-PAGE 4B

A HIGHER CONSCIOUSNESS



During the worship service at the temple, offerings of the five elements are made to Krishna (God). After each offering the elements are passed among the devotees. A man passes the offerings to the men and then a woman passes the offerings to the women, who occupy opposite sides of the room.

Echo staff photos by Bennie Shallbetter

Learning and fellowship at Hancock's own Krishna temple

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

At mid-morning on Sunday there was no indication of the flurry of activity that would soon fill the grounds of New Talavana, an International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) farm settlement, located in far north Hancock County. The residents and congregation of the religious community worship Krishna (an East Indian word for God), who is scripturally based on the 5,000 year old Sanskrit text, the Bhagavad-gita (the Song of God). Followers believe that the goal of life is to develop a love of God.

Sunday is feast day and



Gopal, front, of Calcutta, India, and Nimal, center, of Maya Pur, India and Punderick, from Indiana, prepare some of the dishes for the day's feast last Sunday at New Talavana. The public is welcome to visit and join the festivities, say devotees at the farm.

one of the busiest days on the farm. Shrivadi Das from Perm in the Ural Mountains of Russia worked in solitude to clean the tables in the large covered outdoor area where

the food would be served in the afternoon. He informed Yogendra, president and resident priest of the settlement of my arrival and I was directed to a large communal kitchen where

the day's meal was being prepared.

Members of ISKCON are given "spiritual names" after taking their vows about six months after they enter the temple,

when it is assessed that they are serious in their wish to follow a more spiritual existence and the basic regulations of Krishna Consciousness: No eating of meat, fish or eggs; no gambling; no illicit sex; and no intoxication of any kind including tobacco, coffee, and tea.

Devotees, as followers are called, do live and work in the outside world and may choose to use their birth names in these pursuits. A certain number of devotees do live in the Krishna community exclusively, devoting their lives to Krishna Consciousness. Devotees live the basic tenants of simple living and higher thinking, but like everyone, they drive cars, use computers and cell phones and have high hopes for their children's futures.

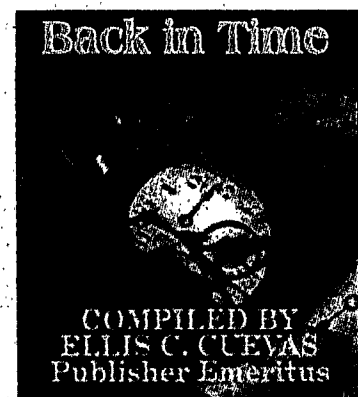
Gopal from Calcutta, India, Nimal from Maya Pur, India and Punderick, who grew up in Indiana were in charge of cooking many of the dishes for the feast on this particular

KRISHNA-PAGE 4B.

1953 - Coast Council of Chamber of Commerces to sponsor opening of new Bay of St. Louis bridge

TEN YEARS AGO

May 23, 1993 - Bay-Waveland School District Administrative assistant W.J. Cameron and Bay High Principal Roger James were honored during a reception at Bay High School prior to completion of the school year and retirements. Cameron has completed 33 years in the Bay-Waveland School District, during which time he serves as business teacher, tennis and basketball coach, principal of Bay Junior High for 17 years and district administrator assistant for five years. James has worked for 28



years in the district as a teacher and assistant principal at Valena C. Jones High School, guidance counselor and assistant principal at Bay Junior High, and Bay High

Principal for the past 10 years.

-Waveland City officials will consider re-naming Waveland Avenue at the request of the Bourgeois-Stieffel-Ray American Legion Post 77. Spokesman Herman Yarborough asked Mayor Stella Frilot and the board of aldermen to consider changing the name of that portion of Waveland Avenue from Central to Beach Boulevard to Elwood Bourgeois Memorial Boulevard who gave his life in combat in World War II and still has family members residing in Waveland. Yarborough said Bourgeois

was raised on that part of Waveland Avenue.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

May 26, 1983 - Hancock County's unemployment rate reached 13.4 percent in April, the highest ever recorded based on current Mississippi State Employment Services figures. The only time the jobless rate neared that level was with 12.9 percent in February and 12.8 per cent in Nov. 1977.

-Alumnus honored. (Photo) Brother Mark Thornton, president of St. Stanislaus, congratulates Dr. Marion J. Wolfe, Sr., of

Bay St. Louis on the occasion of his sixtieth anniversary of his graduation from St. Stanislaus. Dr. Wolfe is a member of the SSC Class of 1923 and is still active in taking care of the medical needs of the students of St. Stanislaus.

FORTY YEARS AGO

May 16, 1963 - Chosen to attend 1963 Boys State in Jackson June 1-8 sponsored by American Legion Post 139, Bay St. Louis are Elmer F. Ferguson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Ferguson, representing Hancock

TIME-PAGE 4B

SPORTS

Rules to protect offshore rigs could hurt fishing

BY JAY REEVES
Associated Press Writer
ORANGE BEACH, Ala. (AP) — Homeland security is butting heads with good fishing in the Gulf of Mexico.

About 4,000 offshore rigs dot the gulf, supplying about a third of the nation's domestic oil and gas supply. The platforms are a vital link in the U.S. energy chain, yet they are virtually unprotected from terrorists.

The rigs also are a favorite destination for fishing boats, which bob up and down in their shadows as anglers fight for tuna, marlin and other species that are drawn to the rigs like bugs to a light bulb.

The Coast Guard is writing new rules to plug what some see as a hole in America's homeland security plan, a lack of protection around the platforms. But

anglers worry the changes could shut them out of prime territory, particularly if the government bans fishing around the rigs.

"It would hurt everybody," said Bobby Walker, skipper of the 60-foot Summer Breeze II, which regularly takes charter customers far out in the gulf to fish near rigs. "There's a lot of boat traffic."

The new rules are due to be released in July.

Rig security has never been a problem off the U.S. coast, but officials fear an attack similar to the one against the USS Cole, which terrorists targeted with a small boat laden with explosives, killing 17 sailors.

"If you knew what you were doing you could create a fairly large environmental problem," said attorney Robert Housman, who tracks homeland security

issues for Bracewell & Patterson, a law firm in Washington, D.C.

While many rigs in the Persian Gulf and Mediterranean Sea are armed with machine guns and missile launchers to scare off terrorists, Coast Guard spokesman Jonathan McCool said such a move isn't being considered here.

The Coast Guard also doesn't intend to completely shut off access to the rigs, said McCool, a petty officer in the Coast Guard's New Orleans office.

"But there could be rules that change the way some people fish," McCool said.

Drilling industry spokesman Allen Verret said most rigs in the Gulf of Mexico are unmanned and unprotected.

While dozens of shallow-water rigs are visible from the shores of Alabama,

Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, Verret said 80 or so platforms in the deepest water provide 65 percent of the gulf's production.

"That's where we're really vulnerable," said Verret, of the Offshore Operators Committee, which worked with the Coast Guard in the initial stages of the rule-making process.

Any new regulations could affect rigs in all U.S. coastal waters. The new rules will also stipulate new security measures for coastal facilities such as fueling stations.

But it's the prospect of losing access to the offshore rigs that is scary to anglers on the warm Gulf Coast, where fishing is a year-round industry. It all comes down to geography.

With a sandy, flat floor, the Gulf of Mexico is like a saucer full of water. It does

not have many reefs or undersea hills to attract fish, which like to be near structure. Rigs standing in hundreds of feet of water are the ultimate lure, providing cover for both bottom dwellers and top feeders.

"You can catch a lot of fish out there on a good day," said Kenneth Underwood, a recreational fisherman. "You go out, tie up on (a rig) and troll going out and coming in."

Alternatives to a ban on rig fishing are being developed.

The Gulf Safety Committee, working with the energy industry, anglers and the Coast Guard, is formulating a plan for captains to voluntarily radio to rigs before approaching, said Maj. John Thomas Jenkins, in charge of saltwater fishing enforcement for Alabama Marine Resources

Division.

But such a program may not be enough. Officials fear a well-placed attack on a major rig could have devastating effect.

Walker, the boat captain, doesn't see how the government can enforce any new rule with so many rigs and vessels in the gulf.

"If a boat wants to run under one of those things and blow it up, who's going to stop them?" he said.

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SPORTS

2003 Sports: Is this the best ever?

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

Was the 2003 high school sports year the best ever in Hancock County history? Some say yes and others say no. However, one can certainly make a valid argument that it was. For starters, Hancock County claimed five state championships and had several close calls during the school year. Has that happened before? Not in recent history. Let's take a look at what did happen in 2003.

The school year started with high school volleyball. OLA brought home the state title in a sport that is not separated by classifications. The Crescents took on a powerful Tupelo team that was physically bigger. But, the Crescents took the fight to them and prevailed with athleticism and quickness. OLA had reached the state finals the year before only to see it slip away.

In cross country, the St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws fell just short of the state title. Pearl High School edged the Rocks in the state meet at Clinton for the 4A crown and SSC claimed the runner-up spot. It was the highest finish for the Rocks in several years. Plus, SSC claimed their own invitational title, as well as, the divisional title for the first time in the same year.

Swimming made a big splash in Hancock County this season. OLA's Alyssa Walters continued to set new marks in the sport while leading OLA to a best ever finish at the state meet - a top 10 performance. SSC continued its winning ways in the South State but ran into tough competition at the state meet.

However, they still finished in the top 15. The Hancock Hawks swim team continued to progress and made a superb showing at the state meet.

The big news of the fall was the high school gridiron. Hancock made a run at the state 5A playoffs late in the season; however, Oak Grove spoiled the show. The Warriors ended up playing in the 5A South State finals while Hancock earned a spot in the 63rd annual Shrimp Bowl in Biloxi.

The St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws made a return trip to the 4A state playoffs and claimed the mythical county championship under first-year head coach and SSC alum Casey Wittmann. SSC advanced to the state playoffs for the third time and played the same opponent in South Pike. The Eagles made the 4A South State finals after they disposed of SSC in the first round. SSC laid claim to the county championship by defeating both Bay High and Hancock in the same year for the first time since 1998.

The county will not have a clear-cut champion next year as all three teams will not play each other.

Bay High fielded a young and inexperienced squad in the season of 2002.

While the Tigers took their lumps, the young team showed tremendous progress by the end of the

campaign. The season of 2003 will be a brighter one for the still young Tiger squad.

Pass Christian had a down year after their first playoff trip since the 1940s. The Pirates had trouble with the injury bug which did not allow them to tap the potential of their team. Look for a rejuvenated Pirate squad in the fall.

Following the gridiron season came a tremendously successful soccer and basketball season for both girls and boys. The county produced two state champions in soccer, a state champion in girls basketball, and three near misses in boys and girls basketball.

The OLA Crescents claimed their unprecedented fourth consecutive state girls soccer championship. OLA stormed through the regular season and playoffs en route to their record setting season. OLA had the first girls soccer program in Mississippi back in 1990 and the Crescents kept their tradition of excellence in the sport alive in 2003. Is more on the way in 2004?

The St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws claimed their third state soccer title and first in Class 4A with a decisive 3-1 victory over Pearl in the state finals. Pearl kept SSC away from the title in 2002 but that was not in the cards this season as SSC wreaked havoc on the competition in 2003. Peter Doty broke SSC's all-time scoring record and finished with 111 goals and signed a full athletic scholarship with Boston University.

On the hardwood, the Bay High Lady Tigers ran through the competition en route to a 35-1 record, a #1 statewide ranking and a class 4A state title.

It was the first state championship for Bay High in any sport. Stephanie Reed and Carmen Labat earned scholarships following their spectacular season.

The St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws and the Hancock Lady Hawks both made the state basketball tournament for the second consecutive year. The Rocks defeated the Oxford Chargers and advanced to the Class 4A Final Four before being ousted by nationally-ranked Jackson Lanier. The Lady Hawks were bounced from the Jackson tourney by Murrah for the second year in a row after a division championship and runner-up finish in south state. The Pass Christian Pirates made a strong go in the South State tournament but fell just short in their bid for a trip to Jackson.

Hancock County hosted three South State tournaments in basketball at SSC, Bay High and Hancock. It was the first time in Mississippi basketball history that three major tournaments were held in one county. SSC hosted the 4A boys, Bay High the 4A girls, and Hancock the 5A girls South State tournament.

That is proof that some of the best basketball in the state is played right here in our own Hancock County!

Moving on to spring sports and the gnat season. Most every athlete that competes in a spring sport faces a second foe in those little bloodsuckers that seem to swarm in the millions - gnats. With the gnats come baseball, softball, track, golf and tennis.

Bay High missed the playoffs in baseball and softball by one run, literally. Both Tiger programs ended the season in ties for the final standings.

That meant a tie-breaker rule would be in effect to decide the last playoff team. The Tigers missed out both times by just one run. However, a lot is to be said for the two teams that placed themselves in that position.

The Bay High Tiger baseball team was the best in the county this season.

Led by PRCC signee Brandon Strong, Guy Alleman and Aaron Morris, the Tigers defeated some of the top programs along the Gulf Coast. The Lady Tigers under the direction of Debbie Triplett started to show some of that hardwood magic on the diamond. More bright things are expected from that bunch in 2004.

The OLA softball team advanced to the state playoffs after winning the division title behind timely hitting and dead-on pitching.

Tennis action got heated as the SSC/OLA tennis team narrowly defeated the Bay High program for the division title. Several team members from each school participated in the state tennis tournament.

The golf season saw a relatively young Rock-a-chaw link squad advance to the state match following a runner-up showing in the division tournament.

Junior TJ Koger placed fourth overall in the state match. Pass Christian's Nick Beale was the low medalist in the division match and earned the right to compete individually in the state match where he finished in the top 10.

The track season turned in by this year's athletes was an unexpected one to say the least. SSC finished as division champion, regional champion, south state runner-up and seventh overall in the state meet. Four medals were brought home by area athletes. SSC's Fred Mallini, Allen Leone, and Kyle Lewis brought home the hardware.

Mallini used flawless technique to place third in the shotput while Leone earned the silver in a gutsy 800m race. Lewis claimed two medals in the 3200m (silver) and the 1600m (bronze) races that proved to be as much strategy as they were stamina.

Bay High placed a 1600m relay team of Lorenzo Lewis, Monroe Jordan, Norman Wilkes, and Greg Lemeir in the state track meet.

The Tigers finished fifth overall. OLA was led by all-state finalist Jennifer Asper on the track this year.

Finally, the Bay High dance team brought home a

state title this past school year that brought the county's total of state titles to five.

Athletes signing national letters of intent became commonplace in 2003.

While not able to mention all the signing, here are some of the ones that come to mind. Maurice Hardnett will continue on the gridiron in the fall while Gabe Willis will run the point for PRCC. Brett Amond looks to play early on the hardwood at Loyola while Brandon Strong will ply his trade on the diamond in Poplarville. Carmen Labat, Devin Necaise and Stephanie Reed have the chance to continue bouncing the basketball for Paine College, the University of

Memphis and PRCC. As does Cody Ladner and Jeremy Strief for Louisiana College.

Kara Harshbarger will kick her way onto the field at USM in soccer while Peter Doty heads up the East Coast to try his luck at Boston University.

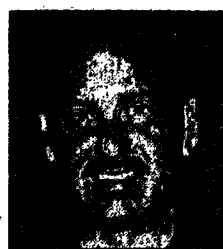
No matter how one slices the cake, 2003 was an incredible year in high school sports. If football is your sport or basketball is your love, you had something to pile into the stands for in 2003. If track is where it is at for you or soccer is what kick-starts your day, then you had something to follow in the spring. No matter what it is that gets you going, there are athletes of all varieties to cheer for in Hancock County. Will 2004 be as successful as 2003? Only time will tell. But one thing is for sure, the athletes and coaches have gotten a taste of the sweet success. So, fans can expect more to come in 2004. See you at the game!

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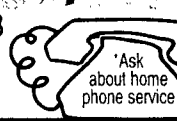
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Mac Cromwell
Rita Foreatier
Baba Robie
- Sara Schexnaydre
Margaret Holt
Heather Thomas
Maureen Morely

3. Terry Scott
Shirley Hyde
Marie Bolton
Jeanette Lane

APRIL 15, 2003
FORMAT: BETTER 9
1/2 Hdcp.
1. Doris Lackie
2. Dee Horst
3. Doris Merritt

4. Pat Ellis
5. Jolee Burrus
6. Sara Schexnaydre
7. Nancy Hanby
8. Doris Roofner

PCI NINERS - LOW NET

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Krishna -- a higher consciousness in Hancock County

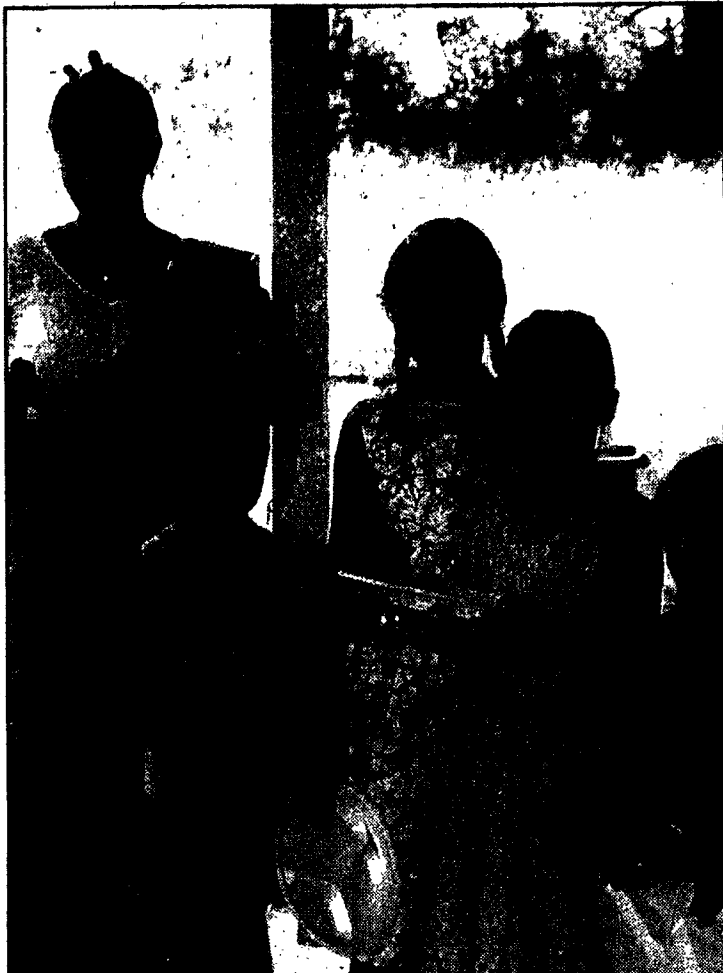
Continued from Page 1B

Sunday. Punderik would also serve as my guide for the day. You can just call me Gary, he said.

Yogendra would offer some of the food to the Deity, Lord Krishna (God) before the meal. Offering a portion to God before each meal is a tradition of devotees. They believe this practice of preparing the food to be offered first to God imparts a transcendental, spiritual quality to the meal. Or to put it more simply, wholesome food prepared with a loving hand tastes better.

While we wait for the service to begin at the temple, Punderik fills me in on some of the Krishna culture, much of which is derived from traditional East Indian culture.

There is no unchaperoned dating allowed on ISKCON property. When a devotee feels that he or she would like to contemplate marriage, the elders are approached on the subject. A devotee may have a partner in mind or the elders may suggest a suitable partner. A suitable period of chaperoned courtship, usually at least six months ensues, and then if the couple feels they are compati-



Some of the resident children wait with their mother for the serving to begin. A traditional ten course vegetarian feast is offered on Sunday afternoons. Much of the food is grown at the farm. Dairy products come from the farm's cows, who are considered the most useful animals by devotees.

ble, they are married.

They have entered one of

the four phases of life, Grehasta, marriage and the

raising of a family. (The first phase Brahmacharya, or student life, the attainment of maturity and education is the first stage, roughly 25 years.) When children are raised the couple enters the stage of Vanaprahasta, roughly age 50 or so, where the couple travels and spends time alone.

The final stage is Sanyas, roughly age 75, when tradition dictates that the man travel alone, sharing his acquired wisdom, and the woman returns home to live with the eldest son or child and oversees the care of the grandchildren and household.

The separation is in preparation for the death of one of the partners, when separation would have occurred naturally, allowing them to establish a life separately ahead of time, Punderik says.

Punderik has been married to Sankirtan for many years. They met in a temple in Gainesville Fl. and have raised one daughter, now 26, and have one son who is 11 years old. The children have been raised in the temple.

This weekend Rosalila, the couple's daughter is visiting from San Francisco,

where she lives and works after her graduation from Milsap College on an academic scholarship. Rosalila attended the school at the farm until the eighth grade, then went on to graduate from Hancock County schools.

"Individual educational choices are up to the parents," said Punderik, "But the school at the farm offers a freedom from the worry about drugs or violence or many of the other problems facing many schools these days and our children tend to excel."

The ceremony is beginning and the crowd which has gathered by now goes to the temple. Everyone must remove their shoes before entering. Yogendra makes the offering of the five elements to the altar containing the images of the Deity. Several women lead the chanting.

Men keep the beat with their instruments, both dance. After the elements are offered to Krishna, they are offered to each person at the service.

When a short class is over, the feast is ready outside. We sit at picnic style tables under a large covered slab near the gardens where

much of the food for the meal was grown. The ten courses more than cover your plate.

The food is delicious and reminiscent of the times I visited a friend of mine who had joined a temple in Denver, CO., many years ago, I tell Punderik. I believe he lives in Los Angeles now I say, Sadhanta.

"Yes, we know him," says Punderik. "You should be able to call and get hold of him very easily."

I smile and turn to talk with Rosalila about what it is like to live in the material world in San Francisco after growing up in the spiritual world of the farm.

"I love it ... now I am more than just my spiritual side, and there are many more sides that I haven't yet discovered, like motherhood," she says. "And when I get homesick I go to the temple in Berkeley and my energy is renewed ... it is wonderful, like home."

It is hard to leave the good food and the pleasant conversation, but it is time to go. As I leave I think of the group enjoying worship, family, friends and good food much like everyone else on a Sunday.

Time -- Bay Bridge

Continued from Page 1B

North Central High School; Michael P. Larroux, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.F. Larroux, representing St. Stanislaus College; and Richard Watts, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Watts, Jr., from Bay High School.

Trustees of the Bay St. Louis Municipal Separate School District Monday night authorized board president Robert Hamilton to take the needed steps in to acquire for \$33,500 22 acres on Blue Meadow Road owned by the heirs of Olaflore Blanchard. If successful in acquiring the land the board expects to construct a new high school there as was recommended by a professional study of the school system made earlier by Associated Consultants in Education.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

May 22, 1953 - The Coast Council of Chamber of Commerces will act as sponsors of the formal opening of the new Hancock-Harrison County bridge across the

Bay of St. Louis. In addition to sponsoring this ceremony, the Council will act as official host of the dedication ceremonies. Committee in charge will consist of O.W. Delph, general chairman and E.O. Hunt of Pass Christian, vice-chairman. The date of the formal opening of the four-lane bridge to the general public has not been announced.

The Dixie-Roto Magazine of the Times Picayune has two representatives here now, taking pictures and writing a story of the bridge that is to be released for the opening.

Coast Electric Power Association will sponsor five Wiring Schools for members' benefit, May-25-29. F.M. Hunter, Extension Specialist in Rural Electrification, State College, Mississippi, will conduct these schools using moving pictures, demonstrations, posters and diagrams. Most homes were wired originally for lights and few appliances. Now,

washing machines, dryers, water heaters, ranges, etc., are being added and the wiring in most homes is not heavy enough to provide food operation. These schools will be held in the school buildings at the following places at 7:30 p.m.: Woolmarket, Monday, May 25; Sellers, Tuesday, May 26; Kiln, Wednesday, May 27; Henleyfield, Thursday, May 28; and McNeil, Friday May 29.

SIXTY YEARS AGO

May 21, 1943 - Leo W. Seal, president of Hancock

Garden

Continued from Page 1B

plements a water garden, pond or creek and actually can be grown in water. However, they do just as well in fertile upland soils. Plant the Japanese iris boldly in informal drifts. Some of the prettiest displays are with other Japanese irises placed in groups of different colors. The large leaves look striking in the tropical garden when combined with elephant ears, ferns and bananas, and in front of larger ornamental grasses.

There are more Japanese iris varieties than you ever dreamed. Garden centers stock more every year, and

Bank and the branch banks at Gulfport and Pass Christian, was elected president of the Mississippi Bankers Association at the closing session of the 55th annual convention and wartime conference. Mr. Seal succeeds W.M. Monger, of Jackson. Mr. Seal is a former resident of Logtown. After completing his studies in local schools he took his college degree at Mississippi A&M College, now Mississippi State, graduating in civil and mining engineering in the class of 1911.

Mississippi specialty growers have a good selection. Favorites are Cry of Rejoice (purple with yellow center), Diomedes (blue), Rikki-Pikki (white), Loyalty (violet-blue, double blossoms and yellow striping on the falls) and Sapphire Star (pale lavender with white veins).

Spring is hitting the Coast and is within sight of the Mississippi-Tennessee border. All gardeners within those boundaries can grow the Japanese iris. I doubt there will be a single complaint from anyone who gives them a try.

HUNTING PROPERTY

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AARP counsels record numbers

THE SEA COAST ECHO

More than 580 people were counseled by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Tax Assistance Program this year, according to Joe Duteil, AARP Tax Assistance Coordinator. The program is cosponsored by the Hancock County Library System and AARP. Tax counselors worked at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library and the Kiln Public Library from February through April 15.

"Based on the comments received, we made quite a few people happy and saved

them quite a few dollars," said Duteil. "Looking at the statistics, there was an increase in the number of people served."

Outing the 2002 tax year, a total of 587 people were helped with their income tax returns, as compared to 494 in 2001. Of that number, 448 were Federal returns and 309 were state returns. Electronic filing was very popular, with 173 returns completed, as compared to 94 last year.

"The program is definitely growing," he said, and this year was definitely a successful one.

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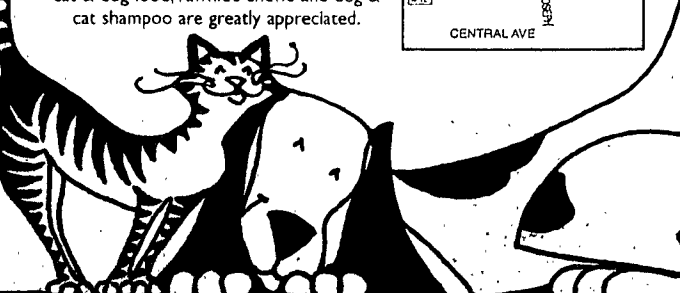
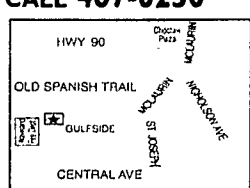


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cat shampoo are greatly appreciated.



Entertainment

27th Annual St. Paul's Seafood Festival set May 30 to June 1 in Pass Christian

BY SHANNON JENKINS
Staff Writer

The 27th Annual St. Paul's Seafood Festival returns this year on the grounds of St. Paul Catholic Church in Pass Christian May 30 through June 1.

This Pass favorite features fresh Gulf Coast seafood from gumbo and shrimp po-boys to seafood platters and crab-stuffed potatoes.

New specialties will include New Orleans-style barbecue shrimp and crawfish tamales by JoAnn Hanson York and onion mums by Father Dennis Carver. Hamburgers, hot dogs and eggrolls will also be available.

Although this festival serves up booth after booth of tasty foods, it was not originally designed to feed the masses.

Father Dennis Carver said the purpose of the festival was to underwrite the cost of Catholic education at St. Paul Catholic School. "The festival was established in order to keep the level of tuition cost at a reasonable rate for parents and at the same time be fiscally responsible for the



Dr. Rock and the Interns play to a capacity crowd at last year's St. Paul's Seafood Festival in Pass Christian.

operational cost of education at St. Paul," he said. "The festival benefits the school monetarily, but its purpose is to help parents."

According to a financial study, he said tuition would have to go up 33 percent if it were not for the festival and other fundraisers

Chip McDermott, the festival chairperson, said the school netted \$60,000 from last year's event.

"The festival is a necessity because of rising costs and fluctuation in enrollment," said McDermott, who has a third-grader at the school.

large crowds, the festival also features entertainment for everyone and carnival rides and games for children. The entertainment begins Friday night with the party band, Dr. Rock and the Interns at 8 p.m. On Saturday night, STARZ will perform from 8 p.m. until The Beach Brothers will help close out the festival on Sunday at 6 p.m.

Over 40 crafters will be featured this year, along with a silent auction of vacation packages, charter fishing trips, artwork, jewelry, sports memorabilia and much more.

The children of St. Paul School are once again donating one-of-a-kind pieces for the auction.

On Saturday, the Gulf Coast Running Club will host a 5K run at 8 a.m. As an election year, candidates will have an opportunity to speak on Sunday.

Festival hours are Friday from 5 p.m. to midnight; Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight; and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For tickets and more information on any of the events, contact St. Paul Catholic School at 228-452-7359.

In addition to the \$60,000, McDermott said last year's festival also brought in about 15,000 people over three days. He said organizers hope to attract more people and raise more money with this year's event.

To keep attracting these

Casino Magic Bay St. Louis will present a double dip of Four Tops

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The Four Tops will bring their special brand of harmonizing to Casino Magic Bay St. Louis Friday & Saturday, June 6 & 7 at 9 p.m. each evening. Tickets are \$14.95, \$19.95, and \$24.95 and are available at the Casino Magic Box Office, by calling 1-800-5-MAGIC-5, or at any Ticketmaster location.

The Four Tops have been marveling audiences with their unique blend of pure vocal power and unparalleled harmonies since 1954. They have brought to the American people and the world a sound so singular that it is woven into the fabric of American pop music.

Hits like "Baby, I Need Your Lovin'," "I Can't Help Myself (Sugar Pie Honey Bunch)" and "Reach Out, I'll Be There" topped the charts and became anthems of a generation. The Tops were a sensation abroad as well. At a time when the U.S. charts were dominated by the Beatles and the Rolling Stones, The Four Tops sat like kings at number one in England. Later came more

hits like "Ain't No Woman (Like the One I Got)," "Keeper of the Castle," "Are You Man Enough" and "Am I My Brothers' Keeper?" The Four Tops were stunning audiences with their live performances, sweating their soul on stage proving that their blend of emotional stage persona and unforgettable songs had launched them to the pinnacle of the entertainment world.

In the early 1980's, The Four Tops recorded two albums, showcasing such monster hits as "When She Was My Girl," "Tonight I'm Gonna Love You All Over" and "I Believe In You and Me." Later, they recorded "Indestructible" which garnered rave reviews.

In 1990, The Tops were inducted into the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame, and in 1997 were honored with a star on Hollywood Boulevard, adding to their growing list of awards and accolades. Sadly, in June of 1997, one of the Tops, Lawrence Payton, died of liver cancer.

The Four Tops had 44 years together and then

there were three. Originally, the three decided to go on and sing and to continue doing what they had started to do years ago - to bring joy to millions through their music. Then along came Theo Peoples (former member of The Temptations) who fit in perfectly, so once again there are Four Tops, still true to the soul, memory and performance of Payton.

Generations can close their eyes, hear a Four Tops tune and it catapults them to a memory.

This group has the distinct pleasure of marking a part of American culture with their music.

Today, The Four Tops are going strong, performing to standing room only crowds all over the world, delighting old and new fans alike.

Their powerful, recognizable sweet harmonies and unforgettable voices have firmly established their status in music history as musical legends!

Don't miss the Four Tops only at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis Friday & Saturday, June 6 & 7. Must be 21 to attend.

Gautier 'Pigout' looking for local talent for battle of bands

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Do you think your band has what it takes? Let Gautier's judges be the judge of that. Applications are now being accepted. Entry is free with submission of a tape or CD to the Pigout Committee for initial review.

The Battle of the Bands competition is open to local and regional bands in the following categories: Country, Bluegrass, Jazz/RB/Blues and Rock.

Each category will be

limited to four performing bands. Finalists will be contacted prior to the event for performance scheduling. Each band will be judged immediately following their performance by a panel of local celebrity judges (selected from that specific musical genre).

The winner of each category will receive a cash prize. The Battle of the Bands will provide twelve hours of music for the Festival throughout the day.

The City of Gautier's 1st

Annual Pigout Barbecue and Music Festival will be held July 19th at the "Old Place". Street. The gates will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m.. A \$1.00 donation will be collected at the gate. Children under the age of six will be admitted free.

Any band interested in joining the competition should contact Gautier City Hall at 228-497-8000 for an application or send an e-mail to gautierpigout@yahoo.com.

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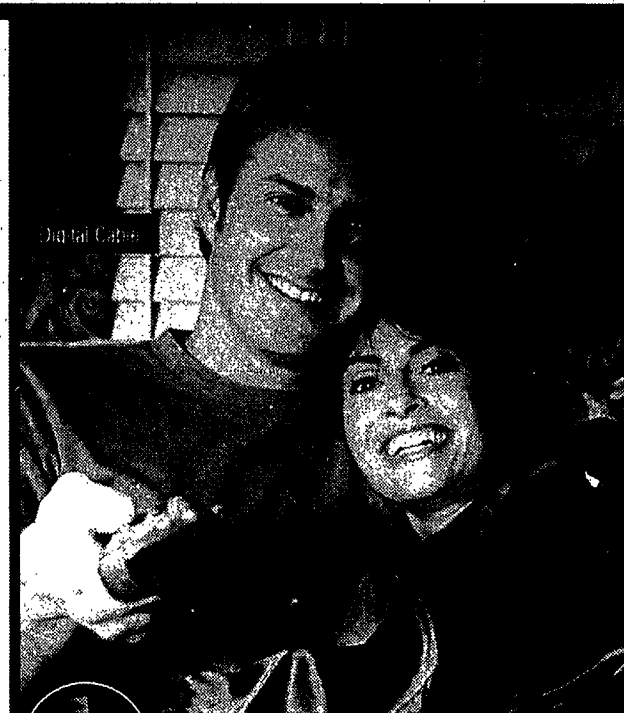
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LOOKING FOR A FULL TIME housekeeper in Waveland. 3 to 4 times a week. Referrals required, must be willing and able to do all housekeeping; laundry and cooking if necessary. Call between 8:00am-5:00pm, Mon.-Fri. at 228-469-9977 for an interview appointment.

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93 Yard Sale

134 ESPANA PARK DR., Waveland. 8:00-12:00, Saturday, May 31st.

1413 BRELAND ST., WAVELAND. Sat. May 31st., 7:00-11:00. Baby furniture, maternity clothes, household items, etc.

DIAMONDHEAD 89346 DHD EAST Saturday May 31 8a-1p Computer desk, teddy bears, quilts, rocker, pictures, stain glass lamp, some old toys and much misc.

DIAMONDHEAD SPCA BENEFIT Boutique/Plant sale. Saturday May 31st 8am firm until noon. Diamondhead Community Center (near front gate signs). Lots of new and nearly new items including home decorating and needs. (Baskets featured) some furniture, jewelry, blooming plants. Prices very Reasonable.

93 Yard Sale

GARAGE SALE 7812 LAIE ST. Diamondhead, Saturday May 31 8a-1p.

GIGANTIC MOVING SALE: Sat. May 31st., Sun. June 1st., 9:00-4:00. 8368 Maunalani Pl., Diamondhead. Everything must go, furniture, appliances, antiques, etc.

MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE: 110 Michael Dr., B.S.L., Sat. 31st., 8:00a.m.-till. Off Washington St. between Hwy 90 and Old Spanish Trail, middle circle. Look for signs. Lots of good stuff and low prices.

YARD SALE-MOVING. ALL MUST GO. Fri, Sat & Sun. 6075 Third St. Clermont Harbor, 9:00am-till? Living and dining & futon, washer & dryer, 2 bikes, appliances, assorted household stuff. 467-9987 for directions.

YARD SALE: SAT. 5/31, 8:00am-noon. (Please no early birds). 238 Farrar in Waveland. Furniture, bike, T.V.'s, mattress & box springs, household items, kitchen items other misc.

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CASH FOR UNWANTED ITEMS before garage sale, moving, estate disposal or cleaning out. Buying brick, household, tools, antiques, sheds/garage items. Wood furniture etc. Call 466-8138 if we can help you out. Also cleaning out sheds/garages for cash/contents. All messages returned promptly.

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DALE'S DIRT SERVICE: TRACTOR work, top-soil, yard sand, clay gravel, fill dirt, limestone, gravel. Cell 228-697-0727 or 228-255-2656.

58 Lawn & Garden

"CALL CHRIS' LAWN CARE" All your Lawn Care needs Free Estimates, Low Rates, and Senior Citizen discounts. Call anytime 228-466-3624!

A CALL TO CHARLIE'S LAWN & yard service for free estimates. Grass cutting, weed eating, trash hauling, etc. Call anytime. (228) 467-1577 or (228) 467-4266.

B & B LAWN SERVICE, FREE Estimates. References. 228-586-1210 or cell 228-216-0756.

BEAUTIFUL FLOWER BEDS CALL Faye at 467-9544 or 209-9717 for estimate on cleaning beds.

D&R LANDSCAPING Landscaping, Shrubs, Tree trimming, ect. Also: Irrigation, Pressure washing 20% Senior Citizen Discount Call 467-1585.

LAWNCARE. BEST PRICES around, quality work, 20 years in business, insured. Bay-Waveland, Diamondhead areas. Limited openings. Call Mike, 467-4491 leave message.

LET STAN DO IT! THE RELIABILITY man. Lawns mowed/trimmed by a professional hand. Free estimates of course. 463-0362 or 380-1527.

RELIABLE LAWN SERVICE: Yards cut, trimmed. References and free estimates. Call 467-2304.

ROBERTS LAWN CARE: Professional quality, reasonable rates, free estimates. All lawns cut, edged & blown off. 467-6962.

70 Employment

EXPERIENCED LINE COOK APPLY in person. Court St. Station, 200 S. Beach Blvd. Bay St. Louis. 10:00-2:00 or 5:00-10:00. Tues.-Sun.

73 Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED PAINTERS needed. Must have transportation. Call after 5pm. 467-5935.

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81 Appliances

Perry's Appliance Repair: Stoves, Refrigerators, Washers and Dryers Call 228-332-1073

DOLLAR RENTAL IS CHANGING Forever! Now offering retail sales or 90 days same as cash on new appliances and furniture. Our appliance parts section is now bigger and better than ever. 467-9545.

GE GAS STOVE WITH MICRO-WAVE electronic pilot excellent condition \$300 OBO 228-452-2830.

PAUL'S APPLIANCE REPAIR SERVICE: Only \$19.50 for service calls in Bay/Waveland area. We buy, sell or trade all appliances. 90 day warranty on all sales and service. 493-0822.

RECONDITIONED HOME APPLIANCES: full warranty, large selection. In home repairs, over 15yrs. experience in appliance service. "I can fix what they sold you!" BC&D Home Appliances & Service. 216-1958 or 324-9265.

SKIP'S REBUILT WASHERS & Dryers. 90 day full guaranteed sales, parts, home service. Also buy non working appliances. Bay Washers 467-6122.

83 Items For Sale

1998 HONDA FORMAN ES 450, \$2,400.00. Wooden beds w/dresser, desk, \$400.00 Both in good condition. 288-533-7904.

CEMETERY PLOT INCLUDES perpetual care. Gulf Coast Memorial Cemetery, Longfellow Ave., B.S.L. Funeral home price, \$900.00. Will accept best offer. 228-467-1256.

COSCO FUN SPORT PACK AND play with bassinet attachment, \$40. 467-5276.

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128 Boats & Motors

21FT BAY LINER DECK BOAT 1988 less than 50hr., cover, dual batteries, head, \$14,900. 586-0396.

35 FOOT HOUSE BOAT needs painting and cleaning. Outboard motor, \$7500. 467-1775.

130 Motorcycles

93 YAMAHA VIRAGO 11CC MANY Extras \$3,200 466-0995.

ANTIQUE 1972 HONDA CB 175; runs great. garage kept. \$1,000/offer. Call 466-0709.

136 Automobiles

1984 CHEV EL CAMINO, 1 OWNER, V6, fiberglass camper top. Runs great, new muffler and tailpipe. Needs paint, AC and some body work. \$2,500 firm. Call 467-1391.

1995 WHITE TOYOTA CAMRY LE owned by a Toyota employee, excellent condition, \$6,900, obo. 671-9218 or 463-9449.

4 15" RIMS WITH TIRES. \$125. Call 342-1909 and leave a message.

84 MONTE CARLO GREAT Condition 1-Owner V-8, 38k miles on original Motor! Cold A/C \$1500. 255-1704.

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CHEAP CARS, 98 DODGE STATUS \$2995 cash, plus 26 new trades from our super sale, priced from \$400 to \$3500. Jimmy Stockstill Motors, Picayune. 1-800-798-9133.

CLASSIC 4-DOOR, 1962 CHEVY Bel Air, V-8, gold sedan; actual 32,000 miles; auto transmission; 8 cylinders; 2nd owner; good condition. \$5,000. Call 466-0709.

CREDIT NO PROBLEM! Q1 Altima, 33,000 miles, factory warranty, \$229 a month. Jimmy Stockstill Motors, Picayune. 1-800-798-9133.

FOR SALE: 1980 CITATION, runs good, \$550. 467-4109.

138 Trucks, Vans

01 CHEVY 1500, X-CAB, BLACK, V-8, step side, \$16995. Compare this price anywhere. Jimmy Stockstill Motors, Picayune. 1-800-798-9133.

2001 DODGE RAM LARIAT SLT Quad cab pickup. Power everything, CD player, tilt and cruise control. V-8 magnum. Like new, looks and runs great. \$16,500. 228-467-0240.

89 FORD VAN: 6 CYC. needs tune up, \$600. 467-5225.

BELOW WHOLESALE, 03 JEEP Liberty, 18,000 miles, factory warranty, \$259 a month. Jimmy Stockstill Motors, Picayune. 1-800-798-9133.

143 Real Estate Services

"All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis."

146 Rooms For Rent

A/C GUESTROOM AT CARROLL House in BSL. TV, phone, extras \$275, year lease \$250. 467-6713.

147 Apartments For Rent

1 BEDROOM, ALL ELECTRIC. Carpet, stove, refrigerator, water included. 100"B Blaise Ave., BSL, \$350/month, \$300/deposit. Pet/free. Lease required. Call 463-0043.

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT downstairs, Shoreline Park, pet-free, \$350 monthly/weekly, \$250 deposit. 228-493-6278 leave message.

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT IN BSL: central air/heat, \$500/month plus deposit. 466-2635.

2 BEDROOM SPECIAL \$350.00 Limited time only. Signature Lake Apartments 452-9901.

DOWNTOWN B.S.L. 131 MAIN ST, upstairs, 2/br, unfurnished. \$375/mo. rent, \$375/deposit. 255-0924.

147 Apartments For Rent

2 BR. DUPLEX 2 FULL BATHS, utility room, 1yr lease, \$550 includes water. 322 Old Spanish Trail. 467-3601.

2BDRM. APT 900 PLUS SQ. FT. Pet free. Call 467-5329.

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BSL BEACHFRONT APARTMENT. 1br/1ba. With amazing views. Every luxury. Parking. Yard. \$495/month. 493-7733.

CHARMING 2 BEDROOM DUPLEX featuring double open fireplace, claw tub, country style kitchen, walking distance from beach and Old Town BSL \$550 month \$550 deposit. Tel 469-0821.

LARGE, ONE BEDROOM Carpeted apartment. Refrigerator, stove, dishwasher. Central air/heat. Located 200 feet from Beach Blvd. in old downtown area of B.S.L., off street parking. Second floor unit. Located at 112 Court Street, Apt. #D, above Treutel Insurance Agency building, Bay St. Louis, MS. \$395.00 per month, \$200.00 deposit required. No lease. 467-5662 or 467-4613.

PASS CHRISTIAN: COUNTRY setting, very private, 2 bedroom upstairs apartment, all utilities and cable furnished. Central air/heat, stove and refrigerator. Smoke free. Available June 15th. \$450.00 month, deposit required. 228-586-2314.

148 Mobile Homes For Rent

14x70 2BDRM 2BA WASHER&DRYER \$150/deposit \$430/mth includes water and sewage 255-7405. Cell 493-7405.

2 BDRM TRAILER CENTRAL A/H Appliances included \$300/mth. 469-0179 or 332-0340.

2 BDRM TRAILER FOR RENT \$425/mth. 467-9278.

2BR MOBILE HOME SECTION 8 welcome. North off Menge Ave. Exit Standard Dedeaux Rd. 255-7480.

148 Mobile Homes For Rent

2BR/1BA, AC/HEAT, W/D Hook-ups, clean, waterfront. \$350/month. \$250/deposit, lease. Sailfish Realty, 466-9947.

2BR/1BA, ALL ELECTRIC, NEWLY remodeled, \$400/month; includes water, \$200/deposit. 255-6012 or 493-4150.

TRAILER, 16x80, 3 BR, 2 BA. Like new, partly furnished, big porch, \$450/month, \$250/deposit. Available approx. July. 228-533-7904.

149 Mobile Homes For Sale

HOUSE TRAILER 14'x50' \$3,500.00 467-7409.

150 Unfurn. Houses Rent

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH: INCLUDES refrigerator, washer/dryer, B.S.L. area. \$500/deposit, \$550/month. 228-760-2205.

2BR, DINING & LIVING AREA WITH bath upstairs, workshop & laundry room with 1/2 bath downstairs, 2 lots quiet, on canal with bulkhead completely fenced. \$640/mth. Including sewer water & trash \$500/dep. with references available June 1. Call 228-255-1537 between 1:00&8:00 pm.

2BR/1BA - W/JACUZZI TUB, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, central H/A, W/D hook-ups, on 1 acre fenced. \$595/month, \$500/deposit 467-5687.

2BR/1BA, CENTRAL A/H. Close to school, casino and shopping. Newly renovated. \$700/month plus deposit. 467-4285.

2BR/2BA, SCREENED PORCH, central a/h, kitchen appliance, w/d hookups, 1/2 block from beach, BSL, pet free. \$700/month, \$500/deposit. 467-4138.

3 BDRM BRICK HOUSE CENTRAL h/a, real nice, \$750. mo. \$500. damage deposit, pet free. Call 493-4986 or 831-5645.

400 GARDEN RD. 2BR/1-1/2BA, fenced, quiet neighborhood, upstairs deck, fireplace, washer, dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator, \$600/month. \$300/deposit, water & yard maintenance included. 466-6347.

B.S.L., BEAUTIFUL DUPLEX: Near Casino and Bay, all appliances. \$650/month plus deposit. 228-586-1845 or 547-9133.

CARROLL AVE. DUPLEX: Off street, 2br/1ba, central air/heat, \$450/month. 3BR/1BA, air/heat, \$550/month. Walk to beach & downtown. Lease & deposit, pet/smoke free. Sailfish Realty, 466-9947.

DIAMONDHEAD 3 BEDROOM 2 Bath, double car garage, washer/dryer, \$900 plus deposit. 228-216-0581.

150 Unfurn. Houses Rent

FOR RENT: 3BR/2BA Townhouse in excellent neighborhood of Bay St. Louis. Central air & heat, washer/dryer and refrigerator. \$750/month. 467-1239.

FOR RENT: 3BR/2BA, new construction, 168 & 172 Felicity, \$775.; 803 Spanish Acres Dr. 3BR/2BA \$800/month; 405-A Citizen St. Townhome. 3BR/2-1/2BA \$850. Call Chari at McIntyre Rapp Real Estate, 467-3777.

HWY 603 EXTRA LARGE 2BR 1BA Duplex central air/heat waterfront pet/smoke free. \$450/mth. Lease & deposit. Sailfish Realty, 466-9947.

IDEAL FOR RETIRED COUPLE, 2BR 1BA, large living room, fully equip. kitchen, storage shed, washer/dryer, central a/h. Deposit, lease & references required. 467-3585.

KILN 3 BEDROOM 1.5 BATH ON Annunciation Dr. Central H/A \$450/mth deposit required 800-390-5958.

LIKE NEW 3 BR, 2 BA FROM \$750 per month. Century 21 of Diamondhead. 255-3550.

NEAR BEACH 2BR/2BA COTTAGE All appliances central h/a fireplace, yard maintained, paved driveway \$800/mth. 228-452-2930.

PASS CHRISTIAN 3/BR QUIET ST. fenced yard. Pets ok. 466-9134.

RENOVATED, GREAT SHAPE 2/BR 1/BA, all electric stove and refrigerator, furnished, on bayou, quiet area. 6183 2nd St. off Harbor Dr. Sewer & garbage furnished. \$600/mth. \$600/dep. 1 year lease. 467-8287.

RENTAL IN DIAMONDHEAD 3bdrm/2ba in Oaks, Grass cut included in package. \$750 month, 1mo. deposit. 228-255-0495.

SHORT WALK TO WAVELAND beach; Precious 2 bdrm. cottage freshly painted, large living area, fenced yard & a large screened porch across the front. \$465/month. Pet free. Key Properties, Inc. 467-0600.

WE HAVE LOTS OF HOMES and condos in Diamondhead. Must call Patrick or Betsy Nolan 255-3550. Century 21 of Diamondhead.

151 Furn. Houses Rent

HOUSE ON 3 LOTS IN QUITE neighborhood. \$600/mth. first and last. 467-6322.

156 Lots/Acreage

100% OWNER FINANCING. White Cypress Lakes. Beautiful lots from 1 acre to 30 acres, some as low as \$3000 per acre, waterfront available. Mobile homes allowed in certain areas, and great fishing. Ten miles east of I-59, Carriere exit. Thirty miles from Bay St. Louis. 228-255-1790.

150X150 CLEARED LOT IN Waveland. Corner of Sycamore and Grove \$17,500. 466-2641 or 216-5968.

230 TIDE STREET, WAVELAND, 50x120, cleared, filled & surveyed. Ready to build. \$16,200. 467-9627.

156 Lots/Acreage

FOR SALE: \$16,400 LOTS ON Whale, on water off 603 & Central, near Jourdan River. Will owner finance with \$3,000 down & \$140/month. Call at 323-8936.

FOR SALE: FOUR ADJOINING Lots, cleared, with well, Bayside Park, paved street, owner financing. Only \$100.00 down. Monthly terms. 228-467-5734.

2.5 ACRES ON WATER. \$35,000, financing available, \$2000 down, \$313.28 per month. Call Herb owner/agent, Coldwell Banker Alfonso Realty, (228)493-5095 or 467-1374.

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Neat & Clean 4 Bed/2 Bath Brick House! Oversized Bedrooms and Kitchen plus Den, Living Room and Carport. Needs updating but is in an excellent location, \$129,900 -Owners looking for offers.

Walk To The Beach from this lovely older home in the Heart of Old Town BSL. 3 Bed/2 Bath Home, Approx. 2,000 sq. ft., Porch, Workshop, House about 95% updated - needs some cosmetics to finish. \$219,000 Owners want to see all offers.

Acreage in Highland Acres Not Too Far from I-10 - Approx. 6 acres offered at \$39,500.

Waterfront Lot on Old Lazy River Road with approx. 300' ft. on the Water! \$49,000

Waterfront Home on Old Lazy River Road - 200' ft on Deep water - 3 Bed/2 Bath, Wraparound Deck, Workshop, Elevator, Fenced yard plus much more. \$172,000.

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Wrap around porch for views of the bayou! This 900 sq. ft. home is situated on a 100 X 100 lot with mature trees. Must see, you'll be pleasantly surprised! Priced at \$95,000 (1B4)

Cute yellow cottage near the beach. This 2 bd., 1 ba. home with approx. 750 sq. st. is just waiting for a new family. Features a great room with cathedral ceiling and plenty more to offer. \$85,000 (2B1B)

Doll House in the Pass! Totally remodeled approx. 7 years ago and has barely been used as a weekend home. This great 3 bd., 2 ba. home on the water with approx. 1,155 sq. ft. comes complete with furniture, double carport, & bulkhead. Great for entertaining with lots of extras. Waiting for new ownership. \$165,000 (3B30)

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3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH home on 5 acres of wooded property near the Yacht Club in Bay St. Louis, \$1,100.00.

3 BEDROOM 2 BATH, fenced yard near beach. \$800.00.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOME in Pass Christian near beach. Completely renovated, garage, large back yard. \$1,000.00.

PASS CHRISTIAN, Renovated home on deep water canal, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, quiet neighborhood. \$1,000.00.

PASS CHRISTIAN, Renovated home, 2 bedroom, 2 baths, \$745.00.

FOR SALE

LARGE WOODED LOT on Chartres Street in Bay St. Louis, \$26,500.00

NICE LOT, on Whispering Pines near Beach, \$35,000.00

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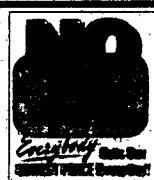
Waveland Shopping Center, Waveland
Sun - Thurs 7:00 am-9:00 pm
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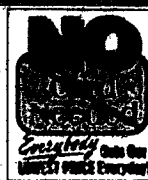
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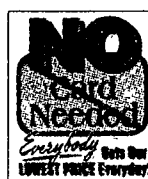
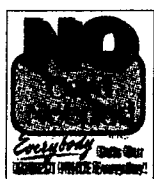


USDA Grain Fed
Whole Boneless Beef
Top Sirloin **\$2.38**
LB
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Whole Boneless Beef
Rump Roast **\$1.48**
LB

USDA Lean & Meaty
Boston Butt
Pork Roast **98¢**
LB
Twin Pack

**DELANIE FILLINGAME, TONYA MCCLURE,
AMANDA OLIVER & KEESHA ROBINSON OF
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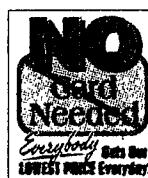
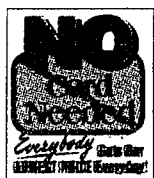


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Sirloin Pork
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New Crop
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LB

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Mangoes **3/1**
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& BRANDON HUNT OF WAVELAND**

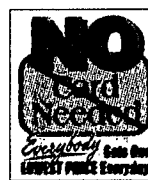
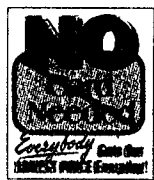


Fresh Crisp
Green
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EA

Fresh
California
Celery **68¢**
EA

KINGSFORD
Kingsford
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20 lb

JENNY BROGDON OF DIAMONDHEAD

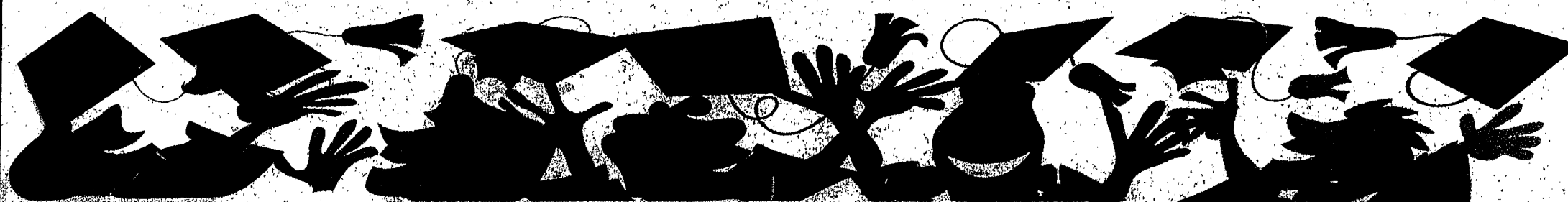


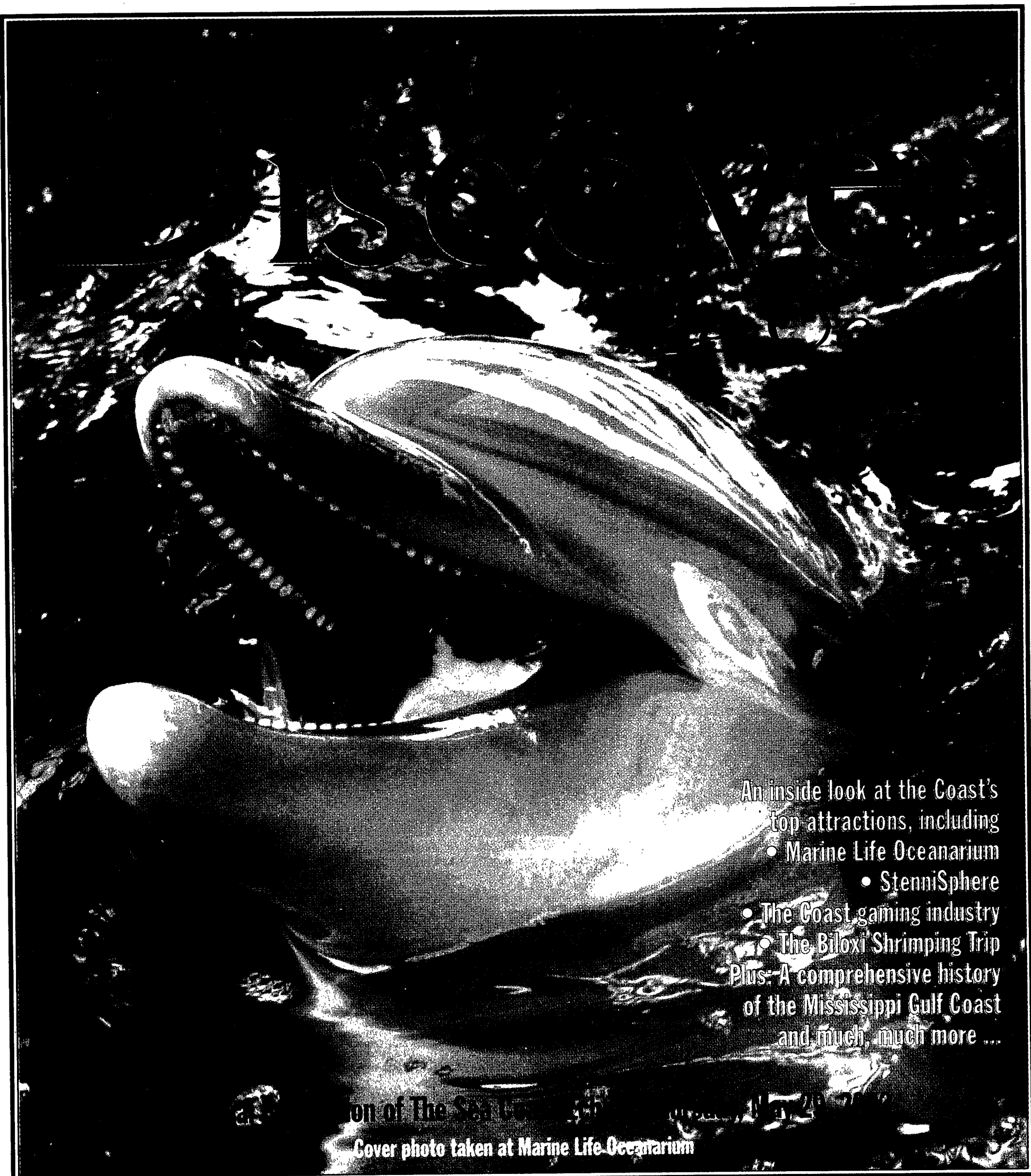
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Sprite,
Barq's &
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12pk
12 oz Cans

Domino
SUGAR **3/4**
4 lb bag

Assorted Flavors
Kemps
Ice Cream **2/5**
1/2
Gal

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Cover photo taken at Marine Life Oceanarium

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ECHO STAFF REPORT
Welcome to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Whether you're a new-comer or a native, you'll always find something new and exciting to do in one of the Coast's vibrant communities, where the future promises to be as bright as the past is colorful.

At one time or another, the Gulf Coast has been home to Indians and out-laws, pirates and presidents, astronauts and athletes.

Archaeologists have dated the earliest occupation of the region at somewhere around 6000 to 4000 B.C., when Native Americans moved down into the area and developed several different



A statue of the man credited with discovering much of the Mississippi Gulf Coast – and New Orleans – Jean Baptiste LeMoyne, Sieur de Blenville. The statue stands in Tercentenary Park in Bay St. Louis, and was dedicated in 1999 as part of the city's tricentennial celebration.

tribes along the Coast, including the Acopissas, the Bayougoulas, the Biloxis and the Pascagoulas.

Biloxi alone has seen eight different flags fly on its horizon: French, English, Spanish, West Florida Republic, United States, Mississippi Magnolia, Confederate States and Mississippi State. The rest of the coast has an equally rich ethnic history. From the original Native Americans, who were members of many tribes, to the European, African, Asian and other settlers who forever changed

the face of the Coast, the blood of many nations runs in the veins of Mississippi's three southernmost counties, Hancock Harrison and Jackson.

Early European exploration of the area seems to have begun in the early 16th century, and Spanish explorers had mapped the entire northern Gulf of Mexico region by some time around 1519.

The Spanish, however, feared Native American attacks and gave the Gulf Coast a wide berth – finally abandoning colonization

attempts somewhere around 1556.

No one else even tried until the French came in the late 17th century.

In 1673, Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet, a fur trader, paddled down the Mississippi River. In 1682, Robert le Seur de LaSalle tried to pick up where the two explorers left off, and eventually claimed the entire Mississippi basin for France. He named the territory Louisiana in honor of King Louis XIV. On a later

HISTORY-PAGE 12

Las Vegas-style gaming & entertainment

Gaming brings jobs, tourism, entertainment to the Gulf Coast

ECHO STAFF REPORT

No exploration of the Mississippi Gulf Coast would be complete without a few words about the Coast's gaming industry.

Since the first casino opened on the Coast in 1992, both the area's economy and population have expanded exponentially.

According to a recent report by the Mississippi Gaming Association, *Mississippi Gaming Entertainment: A Success Story and Then Some*, casinos have brought incredible economic benefits to the Coast by employing hundreds of local people and directly benefitting cities through tax revenues; creating new revenue through a boom in gaming and tourism-related businesses; and helping the Coast to draw lucrative development and industrial jobs by making the area more attractive to big business.

The recently released study from the University of Southern Mississippi, "Gaming in the Mississippi Economy," highlighted the positive impacts of casino development.

In his report, "The 90's: A Decade of Growth in South Mississippi", Dr. Philip Jeffress, Director of the Gulf South Economic Research Center, says "The Mississippi Gulf Coast experienced a major economic boom during the decade of the 90's. Economic performance actually surpassed the high benchmark of expansion that occurred in the state and national economies.... Gaming is generally regarded as the principal catalyst for local economic expansion (on the



The Mississippi Gulf Coast hit the jackpot in 1992 when casino gaming began, making it the Las Vegas of the South.

coast).

According to the gaming association, "Some of the impacts of the gaming indus-

GAMING--PAGE 11

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Learn to be a shrimper on the Biloxi Shrimping Trip

ECHO STAFF REPORT

It's official: Shrimp isn't just for eating any more – it also has entertainment value.

The Mississippi Tourism Commission recently presented The Biloxi Shrimping Trip with the 2003 Award for Excellence in Tourism.

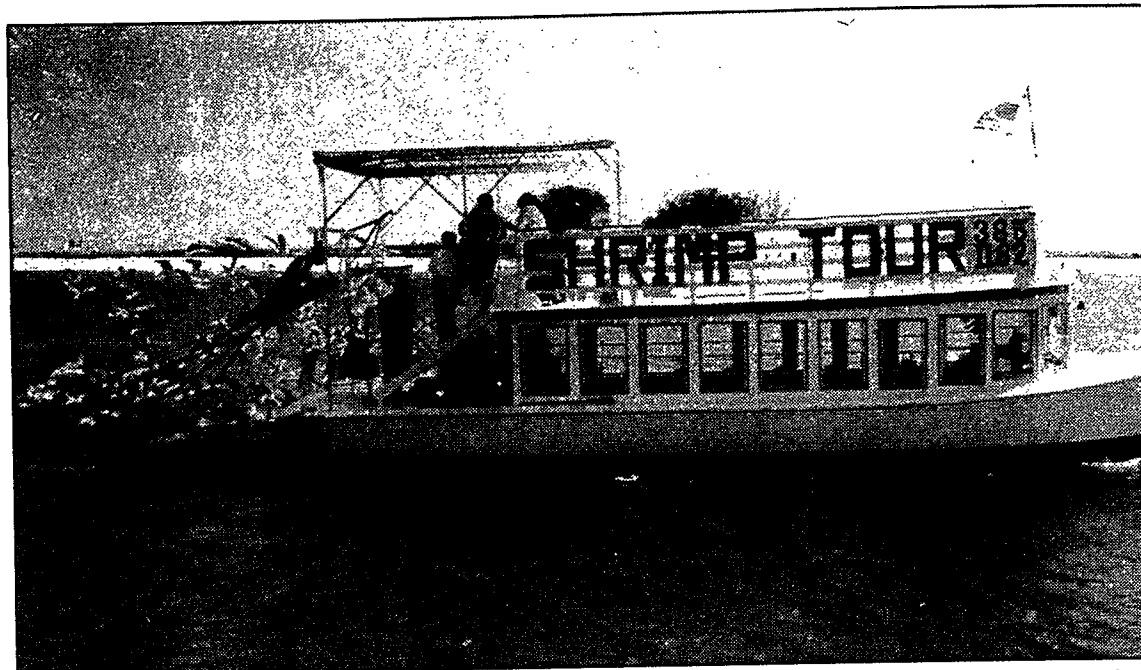
The Biloxi Shrimping Trip was started by Louis Gorenflo in 1954. Gorenflo contracted with a boat builder Lionel Eleuterius Sr. to construct a new tourist vessel to take the public out shrimping.

Gorenflo's intention was to stimulate interest in the daily activities of the professional shrimpers. He named the boat the "Sail Fish," and it's still in operation today, run by Corrie and Virginia Eleuterius, who purchased the business from Gorenflo. Corrie is the Sail Fish builder's nephew.

Gorenflo's shrimping trip included a tour of the seafood factories that were located on the east end of Biloxi. Participants would

tour through the factory to see how the shrimp were graded, "deheaded," picked and/or peeled. Tour groups would also pass near Deer Island to see how oysters were tonged and culled (breaking out the oysters of optimal/legal size and returning the smaller ones to the water). Until 1969, there were people living on Deer Island. One of the residents, John Guilhot, was known as "the Hermit of Deer Island." He became part of the "show" for the tourists, up until his death in 1959.

If the "Hermit" needed groceries, he would clip his grocery list on a cane pole with a clothes pin. The pole would be stuck in the water near the island. When Gorenflo saw the paper, he would pick it up during the first part of the tour. Once the tour arrived at the seafood factory, Gorenflo would pass the list to one of the factory employees, who would then purchase the groceries while the tourists viewed the factory.



The Biloxi Shrimping Trip operates seven days a week between mid-February and mid-December, weather permitting. To book a tour, call 385-1182 or 1-800-289-7908.

On the next shrimping trip, Gorenflo would blow the boat's horn as he approached Deer Island and Guilhot would row in his skiff to meet the Sail Fish, all the while singing songs from his favorite operas. As he sang, the tourists would throw coins in his boat to express their appreciation for the entertainment. Rumors persist that the Hermit of Deer Island was actually a retired opera singer from France.

Gorenflo acquired a wealth of scientific knowledge as well as numerous sea legends and fishing stories during his ownership of the Biloxi Shrimping Trip tour. One of his favorite activities was to exhibit the exoskeletons of crabs while explaining their patterns of growth and development. During the tour, he would also often tell the tale of the "pearls" of the saltwater, hardhead catfish (*Arius felis*). The catfish is said to have pearls in the

upper part of its skeleton.

One version of the story goes that, if you can hear the pearls rattle, you can talk to God. Another version says

that the pearls represent the dice cast by the Romans for the robes of Christ.

Since Corrie and Virginia Eleuterius purchased the business, they say, they have been very surprised by the number of people from so many countries who have heard about the Biloxi Shrimping Trip.

Recently, a couple from

Russia took the tour after reading an article about it – proving how far the reputation for good Southern hospitality, the Shrimping Trip's trademark, can reach.

Today, there are no longer shrimp factories in the part of Biloxi where the Biloxi Shrimping Trip operates. This has forced some changes in the tour. Now the trip is approximately 70 minutes long. The Eleuteriuses exhibit shrimp nets and identify each part

as it goes into the water.

When it's in far enough, they demonstrate how it works.

They also offer a narrative on how the shrimping industry works, including information on the best time of year for shrimping, what species shrimp are caught and the life cycle of white shrimp and brown shrimp. Tourists also learn the difference between boats that work in state waters compared to those that work in federal waters; how they catch and keep their shrimp; how long the shrimpers stay out; and a multitude of other things involved in the daily business of shrimping.

The Biloxi Shrimping Trip operates seven days a week, weather permitting, from mid-February to mid-December. The Sail Fish always stays in the protected waters between Deer Island and the mainland. Reservations are not required for groups of 14 or less. Discount prices are available for groups of 15 or more with prior reservations.

The business is based at the Biloxi Small Craft Harbor, slip number 104. The address is 693 Beach Blvd., Hwy. 90 and Main St., Biloxi, Ms. 39530, (to write, P.O. Box 39533). Telephone: (228) 385-1182 or 1-800-289-7908.

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StenniSphere brings outer space to the Coast

ECHO STAFF REPORT

The visitor center reopened its doors to the public in January after being closed due to the events of Sept. 11, 2001. Soon after reopening, StenniSphere was the first stop on a national tour of a traveling exhibit of the International Space Station.

New exhibits, anniversary celebrations and outreach efforts, including the second public evening engine test, highlighted StenniSphere's 2002 calendar.

Celebration of the 32nd anniversary of Apollo 13's flight into history brought guests and dignitaries to honor Apollo 13 astronaut and native Mississippian Fred Haise.

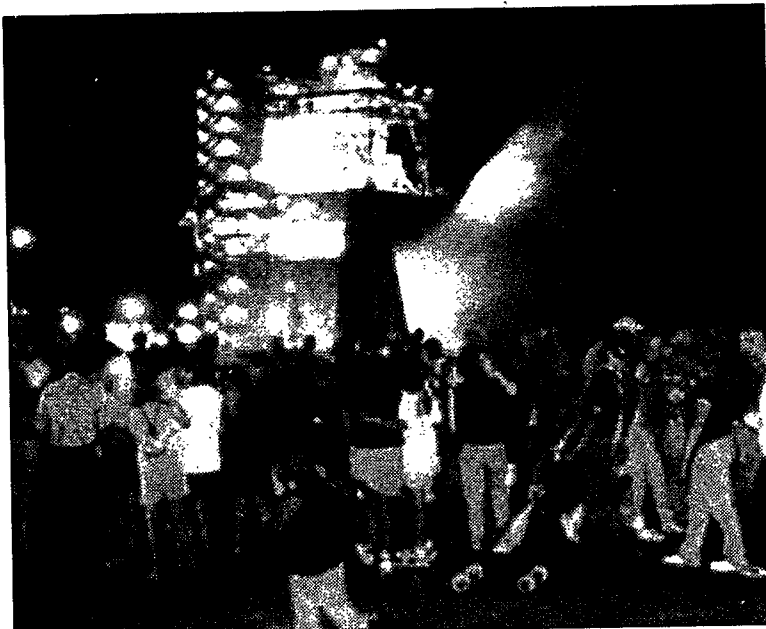
An exhibit recognizing the contributions of space pioneer Werner von Braun also opened last year.

StenniSphere took its show on the road in a joint venture with Entergy's IMAX Theater in New Orleans. More than 500,000 visitors viewed exhibits from Stennis while attending presentations of the International Space Station 3-D movie.

StenniSphere, Stennis Space Center's award-winning visitor center, features 14,000 square feet of informative displays and exhibits from NASA, the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command and other agencies located at Stennis Space Center. More than 250,000 visitors from around the world tour the space center each year. Tours to StenniSphere originate every 15 minutes from the Launch Pad tour stop at the Hancock County Welcome Center at Interstate 10, just 45 miles east of New Orleans.

On display at the Launch Pad is a 30-foot Lunar Lander that was used as a trainer by Apollo astronauts for their Moon mission, complete with Apollo 13 Astronaut Fred Haise's boot prints at its base.

Visitors board shuttles for a 25-minute narrated tour through Stennis Space



Hundreds showed up recently for a night-time test of the space shuttle engine. StenniSphere Tours are offered 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Center's unique acoustical buffer zone to America's largest rocket propulsion testing complex. This is where Apollo Saturn V engines were tested in the 1960s and today where the Space Shuttle's powerful main engines are proven flight-worthy. NASA's next-generation rocket engines also are tested at Stennis.

The lobby of StenniSphere features an exhibit highlighting astronauts from Mississippi and Louisiana, pioneer rocket scientist Dr. Wernher von Braun, as well as the late Sen. John C. Stennis, for whom the center is named.

Some of the exciting exhibits include:

- * Moon Rock -- collected by the crew of Apollo 15 in August 1971, estimated to be more than three billion years old

- * Apollo 4 Command Module -- unmanned module launched Nov. 9, 1967, to test the thermal protection system during reentry

- * Apollo 13 Space Suit -- worn by Mississippi Astronaut Fred Haise, a crew member of the Apollo 13 mission in April 1970

- * Test Control Center -- a mock up of a Stennis Space Center Control Center where you can "test" a Space Shuttle Main Engine and "launch" a rocket

the Saturn rocket; a scale model of the Saturn V rocket that took America's astronauts to the Moon; a Space Shuttle Main Engine; a Motion Simulator -- lets space adventurers experience the sights and sounds of a mission to Mars

AUDITORIUM PROGRAMS

The adventures of two astronauts, Dr. Halley Comet and Cosmo, are portrayed in the live stage show, "Oh My Stars, We've Landed on Mars," performed daily in the StenniSphere auditorium.

Space-themed videos play throughout the day.

OTHER FEATURES

The StenniSphere restaurant offers a full menu of local favorites such as gumbo and po-boys. The Space Odyssey Gift Shop offers the "right stuff" for souvenirs or gifts. The visitor center is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. except New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Tours depart on a regular schedule each day from the Launch Pad tour stop at the I-10 Welcome Center. Special presentations for groups can be

arranged. Stennis Space Center is located on state Highway 607 with easy access from Interstates 10 and 59. Admission to StenniSphere is free.

Motion Simulator rides are \$4 for children and \$5 for adults.

For more information or to make reservations for groups, call Stennisphere at (228) 688-2370 or 1-800-237-1821 (Option 1) in Mississippi or Louisiana or access the Stennisphere home page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ssc.nasa.gov/public/visitors>.

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Waveland's South Coast Skate Park is drawing national praise from the experts

BY SHANNON JENKINS
Staff Writer

After opening more than a year ago, South Coast Skate Park has established itself as both a tourist attraction for Waveland and a hot spot for skateboarders.

Billed as "one of the best (skate) parks in the nation" in the new skateboarding magazine Almost Famous, South Coast Skate Park has attracted crowds with its amenities, special events and competitions.

Owner Kelly Welsh organized the annual King of the Park competition shortly after the park's opening last year. The second King of the Park held in April of this year drew in approximately 350 spectators and participants from Alabama, Florida, Louisiana and Tennessee.

South Coast Skate Park hosts smaller events



Michael Barnes, 17, works on his technique in preparation for a recent competition.

throughout the year including three to four contests, two summer camps and four to five lock-ins.

The park has also gained national recognition within the skateboarding circuit. Several national tours and competitions have utilized the park's facilities.

In early May, The Firm Summer Tour 2003 stopped at South Coast Skate Park. This tour featured several professional skateboarders including Ray Barbee, Lance Mountain, Jani Laitala, Matt Beach and Bob Burnquist, the No. 1 vert ramp skateboarder in the world. Welsh said The Firm attracted about 300 people to the park.

The 25,000-square-foot skate park will also serve as a stop for the Hometownrising Amateur Skateboard Contest Series on May 31 and the Birdhouse Tour on Aug. 9.

Waveland Mayor Tommy Longo it is amazing how

much interest the park has generated.

"The city is getting publicity from across the United States," Longo said. "The park's visitors are eating in our restaurants and staying in our hotels."

Longo said South Coast Skate Park not only gener-

ates interest in Waveland, but it also provides local children with a safe, healthy environment for recreation.

For more information about South Coast Skate Park located at 118 Auderer Blvd., call 228-467-8003 or visit www.southcoastxtreme-sports.com.



Kelly Welsh, left, and Brian Wilemon are currently organizing the 2nd Annual King of the Park competition at South Coast Skate Park in Waveland.

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Discover Marine Life Oceanarium

Marine Life offers hands-on interaction with ocean mammals

ECHO STAFF REPORT

You can't get any closer or more personal with marine animals in a safe environment than you can at Gulfport's Marine Life Oceanarium. You can get splashed by a performing dolphin, feed a sea lion or get a kiss from a harbor seal.

Marine Life was established in 1956, making it the second-oldest marine mammal facility in the United States.

Currently, Marine Life Oceanarium has 18 dolphins, 34 sea lions, and 18 tropical birds, which perform in four shows running continuously throughout the day.



Echo staff photos by Geoff Belcher

After one of Marine Life Oceanarium's many daily shows, you can actually meet and pose for photos with the stars.

There are tropical bird shows, Atlantic bottlenose

dolphin shows, California sea lion shows, and underwater reef dive shows. Marine Life also offers a 15-minute harbor tour train and gravity ship included in your admission.

Marine Life Oceanarium is a hub facility which provides animals throughout the world. Currently, Marine Life Oceanarium has marine mammal shows in Six Flags New Jersey, Atlantis in New York, and Hershey Park in Pennsylvania.

Marine Life Oceanarium – along with Marine Animal Productions – even provides animals for motion pictures.

It has trained and provided animals for movies such as *Andre* and *Slappy and the Stinkers*; television commercials for companies including Reynold's Wrap; television movies, such as ABC's *Creature*; and television shows like *Baywatch*.

Marine Life Oceanarium is open 7 days a week 363 days a year – closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. For more information visit its website at www.dolphinrus.com.



Marine Life Oceanarium offers multiple daily shows presented by some of the most highly-trained dolphins in the world.

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LAYAWAY



J.L. Scott Marine center is a 'window to the sea'

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Mississippi's "window to the sea," the J. L. Scott Marine Education Center and Aquarium, offers

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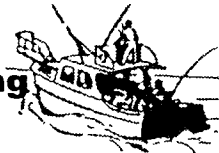
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hands-on exhibits, customized educational programs, marine life videos, and displays of various aspects of marine life and local species, as well as aquarium displays representing the river system as it flows into the Gulf of Mexico – complete with species specific to each environment. A touch tank allows visitors to touch starfish, and horseshoe crabs among other small marine dwellers.

In addition, the aquarium offers Project Marine Discovery Sea Camp, a summer camp for children five-through-16; and Discovery "ABC's," tailored to bring the basics of the marine environment to nursery school groups of three- and four-year-olds.

The aquarium also offers memberships at varying levels which entitle members to free admission, year-round activities such as bayou discovery tours, behind the scenes tours, workshops, the aquariums monthly publication, and discounts at the gift shop.



Echo staff photos by Bennie Shallbetter

The J.L. Scott Marine Education Center and Aquarium at Biloxi offers visitors a hands-on study of the Mississippi Gulf Coast's vast wealth of marine life. For more information call 228-347-5550 or contact the website at scott.aquarium@usm.edu.

The aquarium's "Adopt-A-Tank" program is paramount to the maintenance of the center's 48 aquariums, which range in size from 10 to 42,000 gallons. Any person, organization or business may adopt a tank for yearly fees ranging from \$100 to \$20,000. Sponsors may adopt all or part of a tank for all or part of a year. Adoptions fees go to the maintenance and feeding of the tank's residents. A plaque on the tank acknowledges your support.

The center's living displays illustrate the progression of water through the water cycle, freshwater to salt water habitats. The first set of displays represent fresh water river and creek systems; the second, a salt marsh or brackish water environment; the third, the lower salinity of the Mississippi Sound; the

fourth, the higher salinity areas of the barrier islands and island passes.

The large center tank represents the Gulf Of Mexico. The tank is 30 feet in diameter and eight feet deep. Its 42,000 gallons hold such creatures as sharks, eels, and a sea turtle. Because it is harmful to move large fish, most of the tanks' residents start out small when taking up residence in the tank and are allowed to grow there.

One special display, to remind visitors of their impact on the environment, contains an odd looking turtle, a Red-Eyed Slider. He is odd because at first he looks almost like two turtles until tour guides explain that when he was young he was caught in a plastic six-pack ring. When he came to the aquarium the ring, which

had prevented growth in the middle of his shell, had to be cut out, said Coordinator of Operations Willie Heard.

The Aquarium also sponsors a recycling program for plastic six-pack rings, which may be dropped off at the center.

The center is administered by the University of Southern Mississippi and is the Biloxi campus of the Gulf Coast Research Lab and – with a campus at Stennis Space Center – comprise the USM College of Marine Sciences. The center is located at 115 Beach Blvd. at the Western edge of Biloxi Bay, just before the bridge to Ocean Springs. Hours of operation are Monday-Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call 228-347-5550 or contact the website at scott.aquarium@usm.edu.

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Beauvoir: 100 Years

A special exhibit celebrating the past century at the Jefferson Davis Home and Library in Biloxi

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library is celebrating the last century with a new exhibit in the Confederate Museum.

Beauvoir: 100 Years is curated by Alice Bellanger and Jennifer Myers. This new exhibit will officially open on May 30, 2003 the fifth anniversary of the opening of the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library.

This exhibit highlights the events that took place at Beauvoir over the last 100 years, starting with the sale of the property to the Mississippi Division of the United Sons of the Confederate Veterans in 1903. Visitors will learn about the opening of the veterans home and view part of the original chapel just as the veterans left it. During the 1920's and 30's the veteran's home saw many happy occasions, including a visit from President Franklin Roosevelt. The veterans came out to greet the President with a hearty "rebel yell".

As the veterans grew older, plans were put into place to create a museum on the property and restore Beauvoir House. In 1941, the house was officially opened to the public and the remaining veterans and widows were moved to the eastern part of the property. By the late 1950's and the last of the widows were moved to a nursing home in Greenwood, Mississippi. Beauvoir was known as a historic attraction on the gulf coast and as the new Confederate Museum was created in 1957, Beauvoir



In celebration of the 195th anniversary of Jefferson Davis' birth, Beauvoir will be hosting a good old-fashioned birthday party on the front lawn on Saturday, May 31 from 1 to 5 p.m. It is open to everyone.

began a new chapter in its history as a historic site.

Visitors to this special exhibit can view artifacts from the veterans as well as souvenirs from the original gift shop and photos from the devastation created by Camille in 1969. The exhibit concludes with a look at the future with the new Gulf Coast Botanical Gardens project. Visitors will be able to view the master plans for this twenty one million dollar expansion project.

Beauvoir: 100 Years will be on display throughout the summer in the Confederate Museum and is included in the regular admission fee.

Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library is a national historic landmark property of the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. It is located on US Highway 90 in Biloxi, Mississippi. For more information, contact the Tours and Programs office at 228-388-9074 or 1-800-570-3818.

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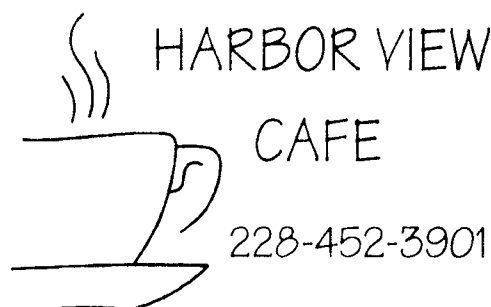
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Claudia Mielinski, (owner)

Ship Island offers memories to last a lifetime

ECHO STAFF REPORT

Discover the best kept secret on the Gulf Coast since 1928—an excursion to Ship Island, one of the Gulf Coast's barrier islands and part of the Gulf Islands National Seashore.

Ship Island was voted in the top 50 "best island beaches in America" in *Conde Nast Traveler Magazine*.

Congress set aside some of the last undeveloped barrier islands for public enjoyment of their outstanding natural and historical resources.

Ship Island is also home to a genuine Civil War-era fort — that was operated by the Union.

Fort Massachusetts was built by the US Army Corps of Engineers from 1859 to



A Ship Island Excursions tour group gets its first glimpse of historic Ft. Massachusetts.

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1866 as part of an extended system of masonry forts for coastal defense. During that time, inclement weather, the Civil War and isolation were a few of the many challenges the Corps faced. Ship Island was considered important to the defense of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast because of its deep water harbor and location along a shipping route. The fort's masonry work is impressive. The concrete foundation extends more than nine feet below sea level. Although several million bricks were used in its construction, the fort contains more concrete than brick. Fort Massachusetts was one of the last masonry coastal fortifications to be built in the US. Although the fort became a victim of advancing military technology, its beauty and craftsmanship remain as symbols of a strong, yet passive coastal defense.

In 1862 Ship Island served as the base from which Admiral David Farragut's fleet sailed to attack and capture New Orleans. The Island also became a prison for Confederate P.O.W.'s, and a base for the U.S. Second Regiment (Louisiana Native

Guards), one of the first African-American combat units to fight in the Civil War.

Ship Island is a favorite getaway for both the nature lover and the history buff. Protected by the National Park Service, the unspoiled island is home to an interesting variety of plants and wildlife, including many species of migratory birds. Warm tidal pools and wind shaped sand dunes crowned with sea oats help the island retain much of its natural beauty.

The island features white sandy beaches for walking, bird watching and combing the beach for shells. Fish or swim in the sparkling water.

The unspoiled island is home to a variety of plants and wildlife, including many species of migratory birds. Several alligators live in the inland pools and wind shaped sand dunes crowned with sea oats help the island retain much of its natural beauty.

A one-third mile walk across a boardwalk is required to reach the gulf side of the island, so travel lightly.

Louis Skrmetta is president of Ship Island

Excursions. The Skrmetta family has owned and operated the business since 1928.

Ferry boats depart from the Gulfport Yacht Harbor near Marine Life Oceanarium.

The boat trip will take you across the Mississippi Sound, used by European explorers who first arrived on these shores in the 1600s. Today shrimp boats, intercostal barges and ocean-going freighters make up most of the maritime activity you will see between Ship Island and the mainland. Often, Atlantic Bottlenosed Dolphins can be seen surfacing alongside the boats.

The vessels have open and closed decks. Showers, changing rooms, covered picnic pavilions, chair & umbrella rental, and affordable food service is available on the boats & island.

Atlantic Bottlenosed Dolphins are frequently seen surfacing near the boats. A one-way ferry cruise to the island takes approximately 50 minutes. The ferry cruises daily, weather permitting, through October 26.

For more information, contact Louis Skrmetta at (228)864-1014

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Gaming -- building a better Coast

Continued from Page 3

try on the coast are obvious: over \$2 billion in capital investment, over 16,000 direct jobs created with an annual payroll of over \$420 million (source: MS Gaming Commission). But how has the general population been impacted by this development? According to the Mississippi Employment Security Commission, overall employment grew by 40 percent in the Biloxi-Gulfport-Pascagoula area from 1990 to 1999.

"This was significantly higher than the statewide growth of 23 percent. The MS State Tax Commission annual reports show that total retail sales increased by 137 percent in Harrison and Hancock counties, compared to the statewide increase of 72 percent."

And the benefits to local folks haven't only been economic.

The casinos brought big-city entertainment and fine dining to the area, without compromising the Coast's Southern charm.

Las Vegas-style stage shows, Broadway plays and top-name performers all make regular appearances in Gulfport, Biloxi and Bay St. Louis.

Mississippi Gulf Coast casinos include:

BEAU RIVAGE RESORT & CASINO BILOXI

228 386-7111, 888 750-7111

This casino offers 1,780 hotel rooms, 13 retail shops, 12 restaurants, a fitness facility, a solarium, a spa/salon and live entertainment. Beau Rivage also provides guests with 50,000 square feet of meeting space, a 1,550 seat showroom and an upscale marina. A lushly landscaped outdoor pool area with cabana service finishes off this 75,000-square-foot, single-level casino. This "casino within a casino" (non-smoking area) boasts the oldest microbrewery in the state. Other amenities include the Beau Rivage Sportsman's Lodge, fishing expeditions, sunrise/sunset cruises; on-site master coffee roaster and an exclusive

Beau Rivage spa treatment.

BOOMTOWN CASINO BILOXI

228 435-7000, 800 627-0777

This Western themed casino, with over 1,100 slot machines, has 22 table games, two restaurants, Boots Cabaret featuring live entertainment, a gift shop and a family fun center with a 3-D motion theater and video arcade.

CASINO MAGIC - BAY ST. LOUIS

228 467-9257, 800 562-4425

Casino Magic Bay St. Louis offers 492 hotel rooms, an on-site Arnold Palmer Bridges Golf Club and multiple meeting options including a 10,000-square-foot ballroom.

This casino also offers 1,100 slots, over 40 table games, free entertainment plus ticketed concert and boxing venues, five restaurants, a spa, a gift shop and 100-site RV park.

CASINO MAGIC - BILOXI

228 386-4581, 800 562-4425

This casino offers a 378-room hotel, including 86 suites. Gift shops and live entertainment are offered. Casino Magic Biloxi also has four restaurants, a day spa/salon, 6,600 square foot of convention space, pool atrium, sun decks and a lounge.

COPA CASINO GULFPORT

228 863-3330, 800 946-2672

This casino offers over 1,200 slots and video poker games, table games, a nine-table poker room, two restaurants, a 24-hour grill, a showbar, live entertainment and a gift shop.

GRAND CASINO BILOXI

228 436-2946, 800 946-2946

With 1,000 hotel rooms and the Bellissimo Spa & Salon, Grand Casino Biloxi offers live entertainment and eight restaurants. Other amenities include Kids Quest (supervised), a teen arcade

and the Grand Bear Golf Course. The Biloxi Grand Theatre provides additional entertainment with seats 1,700. Grand Casino Biloxi also has a 38,824-square-foot meeting space, Wild Coyotes nightclub and 134,000 square feet of gaming space.

GRAND CASINO GULFPORT

228 870-7777, 800 946-7777

Grand Casino Gulfport offers 1,000 hotel rooms, a gift shop, a health spa/salon, live entertainment, eight restaurants and supervised children's activities. This casino also features the Grand Bear Golf Course, the 500-seat Grand Event Center and 15,000 square feet of meeting space. Other amenities include a coffee bar, a lounge, a 3-acre area featuring a lazy river.

IMPERIAL PALACE HOTEL & CASINO BILOXI

228 436-3000, 800 436-3000

With a 1,086-room hotel, Imperial Palace offers live entertainment, five gift shops, eight restaurants and nine bars. This casino also offers a 50,000-square-foot meeting space, the 600-seat Imperial Showroom, the Spa Caribe and Fitness Center, a six-screen movie complex, a shopping arcade, the Bonkerz Comedy Club, 70,000 square feet of gaming, an outdoor pool and a video arcade.

ISLE OF CAPRI CASINO RESORT BILOXI

228 435-5400, 800 THE-ISLE

Isle of Capri features a 370-room hotel, a gift shop, a health club, live entertainment, three restaurants, 15,000 square feet of meeting space and over 1,200 slot machines and 30 table games.

PALACE CASINO RESORT BILOXI

228 432-8888, 800 725-2239

Palace Casino offers a 235-room hotel, a 600 space parking garage, a gift shop, three

restaurants, two lounges and a 500-seat theater. Other amenities include 12,000 square feet of meeting space, a 24-slip marina, poolside cabanas, a business center and a salon and spa.

PRESIDENT CASINO BROADWATER RESORT

Biloxi
228 385-3500, 800 843-7737

President Casino features 512 hotel rooms, a gift shop, live entertainment, three restaurants and children's activities. This casino also offers the President Broadwater Golf Club, the Vegas Vegas Showbar, 50,000 square feet of meeting space

and a 110 slip covered marina. Special blackjack, craps and slot tournaments are also offered.

TREASURE BAY CASINO RESORT BILOXI

228 385-6000, 800 747-2839

This casino offers a 256-room hotel, four restaurants, a gift shop, the Buccaneer Brewery, the Scalawag's Show bar with live entertainment and semi-private high-end gaming areas.

More than 1,000 slots and 50 table games, an arcade and 18,500 square feet of meeting space are also available.

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History -- Coast has rich heritage

Continued from Page 2

expedition to try to establish a colony near the mouth of the Mississippi, LaSalle was murdered by his own men.

Over the next few years, Spain, France and England all tried to claim the area.

"Spain claimed ownership by right of discovery and by gift of the Pope," Robert G. Scharff wrote in *Louisiana's Loss, Mississippi's Gain - A History of Hancock County, MS from the Stone Age to the Space Age*. "France asserted that Spain had given up all rights she may have once had by failing to exploit her property or establish any colonies; and England questioned just who gave the Pope the authority to give away her birthright to Spain. The race was on!"

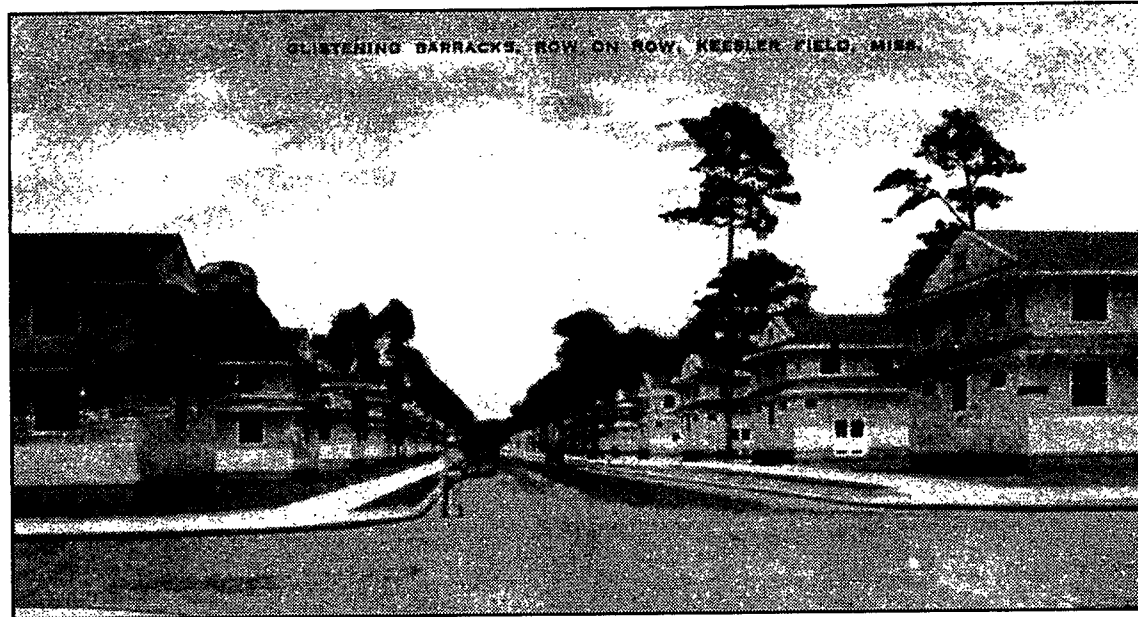
In order to defend against other nations' claims to the territory, the French sent Canadian Pierre le Moyne, Sieur d'Iberville to establish

a fortified colony in the region. D'Iberville sailed from Rochefort, France on Dec. 14, 1698 with 200 men, including his 18-year-old brother Jeane Baptiste le Moyne, Sieur de Bienville.

Biloxi

One of the oldest cities in the United States, Biloxi was established as the first French settlement in the Mississippi Valley in early 1699. D'Iberville and his brother, Bienville, came ashore that year to claim the coast for King Louis XIV of France. Finding the waters too shallow for their boats, the men left, with d'Iberville moving his vessels to what is now Ocean Springs and Bienville going west to the area he named in honor of King Louis IX, the town still known as Bay St. Louis.

In addition to being the first French settlement in the



A 1950s-era postcard depicting Keesler Air Force Base barracks at Biloxi.

Valley, Biloxi was the first permanent white settlement in the area, and the first capital of the Louisiana Territory. Biloxi was also the site of the first two French forts in the area, Fort Maurepas (in what is now Ocean Springs) and Fort Louis, which was located in the area between the current sites of the Biloxi Lighthouse and the Old French Cemetery. Biloxi remained the capital of the Louisiana Territory until late 1722, when the capital moved to New Orleans.

Biloxi is a namesake of the Biloxi tribe (of the Sioux family) that inhabited the area when d'Iberville landed in 1699. The Biloxi tribe met d'Iberville when he landed, and later sealed a pact of friendship with the French people through the passing of the Calumet (peace pipe) and a bottle of French brandy.

"Biloxi" means "first people," which makes it an appropriate name for both the Indian village and the French settlement which followed. Biloxi is the only city in the U.S. and perhaps the world, which bears this name.

Biloxi contains several historic landmarks that attest to the military influence in its history. Keesler Air Force Base, which isn't technically a landmark, is still a vital part of Biloxi's history. The base was established in the early part of World War II, and continues in operation

today as the largest electronics training center in the world. Even the space program's history includes a Biloxi note: Apollo 13 astronaut Fred Haise was born there.

The Mississippi Sound's waters and resources have played a large part in shaping the city. Mullet, a plentiful food fish, were dubbed "Biloxi Bacon" during the Civil War when they saved the city's people from starvation during a Union blockade. Shrimp and oysters play a large commercial role in the area's economy, since Biloxi is one of the world's largest canners of them.

In addition, Biloxi shares part of the world's longest manmade beach, 28 miles long.

Ocean Springs

Ocean Springs was the original site of Biloxi, then was renamed around 1720 when Biloxi was moved across the bay of the same name to its present location. The original settlement then became known as Old Biloxi.

Long before d'Iberville landed, though, the Indians of the area had another name for Ocean Springs. Translated into English, the Indian name was "Holy Ground", because of the mineral springs which the Indians believed had healing powers.

Ocean Springs was a small Indian trading post until it became a part of the United

States in the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. The first permanent settlers began moving in, and the settlement was renamed Lynchburg in 1853 in honor of a merchant operating a trading post on Fort Bayou.

The merchant, George Lynch, was working with Rev. P.P. Bowen, a Baptist minister, at a sawmill at the Fort Bayou bridge. Bowen noticed a small stream running from the ground, and found out that it was a spring, after doing a little digging. When the water was analyzed later, it was found to contain high amounts of iron and other minerals. Bowen built marble baths over the springs with separate facilities for women and men, and an influx of people began.

It is said that Dr. George Austin, planning to take advantage of the springs by establishing a sanitarium, coined the name Ocean Springs. The name stuck, and was adopted in 1854. The town quickly became a health resort, and a regular stop of the Morgan steamboat line between New Orleans and Mobile.

At one time, Ocean Springs was known for both its pecan and citrus industries. Now, the city boasts a number of historical claims, including being the site of Fort Maurepas and the residence of artist Walter Inglis



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History -- centuries of tradition

Continued from Page 12

Anderson. The city also has a number of old churches and homes, many unusual shops, three campgrounds, including Gulf Islands National Seashore, and four golf courses.

Moss Point

Once called Mossey Point by loggers on the Pascagoula River and East Pascagoula by others, the town was designated Moss Point in 1867 when a post office was built there. In the late 1800s, Moss Point was the largest pine lumber export center in the nation. Even after that distinction was taken over by Gulfport in the early 1900s, Moss Point continued to ship lumber to Gulfport by barge until the mid-1940s.

The town officially incorporated in 1901. Appropriately enough for a logging town, the first mayor was named Charles H. Wood. In 1911, Moss Point began shipping some of its lumber to Sweden, where it was made into pulp and shipped back to Moss Point. The first paper mill using southern pine pulp was built in 1912 just outside Moss Point's city limits. Today, it is International Paper Company.

During World War I, the area's lumber industry brought in new growth as the government began building cargo ships for war use. These "Liberty Vessels" used heart pine from local mills and oak trees in their construction. However, Armistice ended the newfound prosperity. The two new shipyards and most of the new workers' houses were dismantled, and the town settled back into the slower pace of life it still enjoys today.

Pascagoula

Like Biloxi, Pascagoula was named for its first inhabitants, the Pascagoula Indians. For a while, though it was named Scranton, after a railroad surveyor who didn't know what to call the area and so gave it his own name. However, in 1917, Pascagoula became the official designation.

The Scranton name does live on, though, in the

Scranton Floating Museum at the Pascagoula River Park. The 70-foot shrimp boat offers visitors a view of life at sea, which has been a vital part of the whole coast's livelihood for many years.

The town of Pascagoula was founded in the early 1700s as a German settlement of a French land grant. Mme. Chaumont sent her nephew, Colonel De La Pointe to settle her grant along the Pascagoula River. He took some 300 German colonists with him.

Once there, De La Pointe built Old Spanish Fort, made of local materials ... oyster shells, mud and moss ... to withstand Indian attack. The Fort later became Kreb's Fort, after De La Pointe's daughter married an Alsatian nobleman, Baron Frans von Krebs. The Fort is still open to the public as an historical landmark.

Shipbuilding, long an economic source for Pascagoula, is now a major industry for the city. Ingalls Shipbuilding is one of the nation's prime constructors of naval ships.

Gulfport

Incorporated in 1898, Gulfport has a feel and flavor different from that of its neighboring cities. Founded as a railroad and port town, Gulfport's history is that of a business city rather than a resort, or even industrial area.

Captain Joseph T. Jones was the driving force behind Gulfport's establishment. He wanted to build a port city to take advantage of the virgin pine forests to the north. He succeeded. Considered an "upstart" by its long-established neighbors, Gulfport grew to fill in an overlooked, sandy, marshy area between Biloxi and Pass Christian. The fact that its founder was a Yankee didn't help matters at first.

However, Jones wasn't the first to think of running a railroad from Jackson south to the harbor opposite Ship Island. William H. Hardy of Meridian voiced the idea some 20 years earlier, and another group had considered the concept in the 1830s, with Mississippi City being

the railroad's southern terminus. The Civil War put an end to the original thinkers' plans.

Hardy, who had earlier completed a rail line from Meridian to New Orleans, including a bridge over Lake Pontchartrain (which some had considered impossible at the time), started work on the railroad and even came up with the name of Gulfport for the city, but abandoned the project when government and other problems interfered.

Hardy did live to see Gulfport becoming a reality, though; he died in 1917, some years after Jones started his work in building the city. Gulfport quickly became the coast's primary port, and eventually annexed the two older towns.

Jones, ever ambitious, almost literally built the city of Gulfport. He called for Gulfport to replace Mississippi City as the county seat in 1902, and continually created companies to supply the city's needs. He founded a hotel and bank, donated land for a courthouse, bought up street priv-

ileges held by another company and donated them to the city, took personal supervision of the G&SI railroad, and helped organize the Gulfport Yacht Club.

Jones even ramrodded the creation of the harbor at Gulfport and the dredging of the ship channel, and built a trolley line that ran from Biloxi to Pass Christian. Today, Coast Transit Authority's Beachcomber trolley is a symbol of and tribute to Jones' original Beachfront Run.

During his time in Gulfport, Jones poured more than \$16 million of his own money into the city's construction and operation.

Gulfport, now home of the Naval Construction Battalion Complex, also served as the site of its predecessor, the U.S. Naval Training Camp. The camp location had started out, not as a government facility, but as the site for the Mississippi Centennial Exposition.

As the city continued to grow, it saw a waxing and waning of its timber shipping industry, the growth of the seafood industry, the con-

struction of the seawall in the 1920s, the four-laning of Hwy. 90, the move of Hancock Bank's main branch from Bay St. Louis to Gulfport in the 1930s, and the establishment of the sand beach in the 1950s.

Today, Gulfport is known for its retail trade, industrial/manufacturing businesses and government installations, as well as its seafood and shipping industries, tourist trade and, most recently, its numerous casinos.

Long Beach

Once known as Bear Point, Long Beach has undergone a number of name changes since it was originally mapped out and named by an Englishman in 1774. Joseph Nicholas de L'Adner was the town's earliest resident, having moved ashore after a hurricane destroyed his home on Cat Island. When he and his family moved to the mainland, they built a home at Bear Bayou near Gulf Park College.

The L'Adner home, having

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History -- Long Beach, Pass Christian

Continued from Page 13

a chimney at each end, gave the city its second name, "The Chimneys", because the L'Adners' chimneys remained standing after the home burned in the early 1800s, and served as navigational markers for sailors on schooners.

Pitcher's Point, near the Long Beach-Pass Christian border, highlights the city's history as a haven for pirates in former times. Apparently, in the early 1800s a certain Captain Pitcher laid a curse on Pitcher's Point that no one would ever find peace there again. He is said to have uttered the curse while being executed by fire by his own crew for his many atrocities.

Even with the curse on Pitcher's Point, settlers were coming into the area, including John Johnson McCaughan, a Yazoo City native, who bought up much of what is now Long Beach, chose the future site of Gulf Park College and built a beautiful home he named "Rosalie". Since McCaughan owned most of the town at the time, and since he did an excellent job of promoting the

area and even served as postmaster, the city's next name became Rosalie.

McCaughan is one of the reasons the Friendship Oak at Gulf Park is still alive and well. He liked the tree so much that he fertilized it ... with dead sharks!

The city escaped mostly unscathed from the Civil War and lived in relative quiet until 1870, when the completion of the New Orleans, Mobile and Texas Railroad changed the city's name once again, this time to Scott's Station, for George Scott, who donated the land for a depot. The railroad shifted business activity to the area north of the shore, and birthed the city's truck farming industry.

In 1882, the city acquired its current name, Long Beach, from James and Woods Thomas, brothers who platted the town and named it for the long, sloping Beach front.

James Thomas contacted an old friend in Tennessee, William J. Quarles, and told him about Long Beach. Quarles visited, liked what

he saw, and moved his family, cattle and all, to the town.

He later opened the town's first store, then became Long Beach's first official postmaster. He also started the first school, in his home. Today, Quarles Elementary School honors his contribution to local education.

Quarles is also attributed with the construction of Jeff Davis Avenue, the town's main street and a favorite teenage weekend hangout for many years.

By 1893, tourism was beginning to make an impact on Long Beach, with two waterfront hotels operating. In 1905, the town was incorporated; J.M. Whitten was the first mayor.

The city's truck farming industry, started by Quarles and Thomas, had started to flourish because of the popularity of radishes in saloons. Apparently, the little red vegetables went well with beer. By 1921, though, the industry had reached its peak, and in following years began to decline.

Other industries also grew, prospered and waned with the changing times, but the "Friendly City" of Long Beach has maintained its hospitable atmosphere throughout the years.

Pass Christian

Two towns along the Coast have nicknames that have almost supplanted their original names with local residents. Pass Christian and Bay St. Louis are referred to in conversation by most folks as "The Pass" and "The Bay". Pass Christian, though, once was known by another nickname, "The Aristocrat of the Coast".

The home of the South's first and the nation's second yacht club, this resort town was first charted by Europeans when d'Iberville and Bienville explored the area. The story behind the town's name is that a Christian L'Adner named the north pass of a channel in the Sound after himself, while his brother, Marianne, named the south pass. However, the brothers are not mentioned in d'Iberville's logs. Julius J. Hayden Jr.,

who wrote a history of the town, feels the name came from Nicholas Christian of New Orleans, a ship's carpenter with a sawmill on Bayou St. John. He apparently kept cattle on Cat Island and later moved there himself, and the pass took on his last name.

The naming of DeLisle, north of Pass Christian, can be accounted for, though. The Comte de L'Isle, one of Bienville's lieutenant's, named a number of the area's landmarks, including Bayou DeLisle. The residential area assumed the name.

The first known resident of Pass Christian was John B. Saucier, who settled there around 1712. Although a few other families moved in later, not much activity was recorded in the town until the 1830s. Then, New Orleanians and upland residents started noticing the town and realized its resort potential. The Pass was incorporated in 1838, and Finley Hiern was the first mayor.

John Henderson, Charles Shipman and David M. Huges developed most of the town's land for summer homes and hotels, which brought in some 1,500 to 2,000 visitors in 1849 and 1850 alone. Henderson Point on the west end of the town is named after John Henderson.

Lucienne Labranche built the city's oldest standing house, Ballymere. Other structures followed, and by 1851, the town had two hotels and some 60 other summer residences.

The Southern Yacht Club, now located in New Orleans, was organized in 1849 at Montgomery's Hotel when a group of New Orleanians came through with their cabin sloop on the way to Mobile. Their host at the hotel promised them a race if they stopped again on the return trip, so they did. The yacht club emerged from the race. Today, the Pass Christian Yacht Club is still a very active member of the local sailing scene.

Between the time of its founding and the Civil War, Pass Christian was the Coast's major trading center. When the war started,

though, the town found itself literally under fire from gunboats in the Sound. In April 1862, 1,200 Union troops invaded The Pass.

After the war, the town's economic emphasis shifted from trading to tourism, with the advent of the railroad in 1870. Now, in addition to New Orleanians and other Gulf area visitors, the town started to see an influx of visitors from the north, and more hotels were built.

By the turn of the century, Pass Christian had become known not only for its tourist attractions, but for the oystering industry and the beautiful homes on Scenic Drive, many of which are still standing despite numerous hurricanes.

President Woodrow Wilson was one of many famous people attracted to the town, and he enjoyed a long stay at the "Dixie White House", one of the town's oldest homes, in 1913. Author Dorothy Dix also alit in The Pass, but she stayed and bought a home.

Although none of the town's hotels, the last of which was destroyed by Hurricane Camille, were ever rebuilt, Pass Christian remains a favorite weekend and summer spot for visitors, as well as home for its population of 6,000. Its annual Mardi Gras parade and Seafood Festival are two of the area's biggest tourist draws, and the Yacht Club hosts two regattas each year, the Knost and the Frostbite. The Garden Club's annual Spring Pilgrimage and Arts and Craft Festival in March gives visitors a chance to step back into the town's splendid ante-bellum past, and the Pass Christian Isles Golf Club hosts an Italian Open tournament each spring that attracts serious and not-so-serious golfers from all over the U.S.

Bay St. Louis

Bienville originally named Bay St. Louis in August of 1699 after King Louis IX of France. The first European settlers, moving into the area later that year, enjoyed friendly relations with the

HISTORY--PAGE 15



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History -- Bay, Waveland, D'head

Continued from Page 14

Choctaws already living there.

While it is now the Hancock County seat and has been a popular watering hole for New Orleanians since the 18th century, Bay St. Louis was sparsely populated for many years after its initial discovery. Development in the area took place primarily along the Pearl River area, with the biggest settlements in Gainesville and Pearllington.

In 1721, a Madame de Mezieres sent some 30 people to the area of what is now Felicity Street to settle a 17,000 acre land grant she received from King Louis XIV.

After the French and Indian War, the Bay St. Louis settlement was given to England in 1763. Following the American Revolution, Spain was given the area in 1793.

Thomas Shields, who received a Spanish land grant on the shore of the bay almost a century after Bienville's landing, began cultivating in 1800, and his grant became known as Shieldsborough. The town was originally incorporated under that name in 1858. However, the town was again incorporated in 1875, this time as Bay St. Louis.

By that time, the town had been in the United States for 64 years, Hancock County for 63, and the state of Mississippi for 58 years. Bay St. Louis, at the time of incorporation under its present name, already had a good reputation as a resort town. The Civil War had but little effect on the town's existence.

Since Louisiana had outlawed dueling around 1870, Bay St. Louis became a popular site for New Orleanians with quarrels to shoot it out. The town as the location of Mississippi's last documented duel, which occurred in April of 1874.

Bay St. Louis has, almost from its start, been a popular weekend and summer haunt for New Orleanians, dueling and non-dueling. By the turn of the century, the town boasted several hotels and summer "cottages", as well as

a health resort, an opera house and a vineyard. Even today, many visitors are from the neighboring state, as well as many transplanted residents.

Bay St. Louis was the site of the first Hancock bank, founded in 1899 as Hancock County Bank, and the location of one of the coast's oldest newspapers, The Sea Coast Echo, established in 1891. Since its beginning, the Echo has missed publishing only two issues. The Bay also can claim the coast's first seawall.

Today, Bay St. Louis remains a favorite tourist spot, and has gained a reputation as an art and antiques colony.

The city's annual Art Tour attracts thousands of visitors each fall, and new galleries and antique stores have recently sprouted like flowers.

Waveland

Waveland was a part of Shieldsborough until March 1888, when it was chartered and citizens elected L.H. Fairchild as its first mayor. An established summer retreat, Waveland is populated by descendants of the original French and Spanish settlers, as well as residents who have moved from New Orleans and other metropolitan areas.

The town's first major business was Ulman's Woolen Mill in the 1880s. Sheep raising was a big business on the coast at the time, and the shepherds would come down from the area north of the Sound once a year to trade wool and hides in Bay St. Louis and Pass Christian. When the sheep raising industry fell after a few years, Ulman's Woolen Mill also died.

One of Waveland's claims to fame was the "Pirate House", built in 1802 by a New Orleanian of dubious repute. Some believed him to be pirate Jean Lafitte, but historic records indicate the house was owned only by a close business associate who helped Lafitte ply the slave trade in secret. The house was destroyed in Camille, but its story lives on in local his-



Centuries-old live oaks provide both a frame and a gateway for the Coast's long history.

tory.

Today, Waveland is the site of Buccaneer State Park, probably named for Lafitte and his confederates. The park is an ideal campsite and picnic ground, facing the beach in Waveland. The park's Wave Pool attracts visitors of all ages.

A short distance west of Waveland is NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center, where shuttle engines are tested and many important government subcontractors are located. Stennis' Visitors Center provides a look at the nation's space program ... past, present and future.

North of Waveland, near Kiln (named for the ovens where the original French settlers burned charcoal to sell), is the Stennis International Airport. The airport includes a landing site for private and charter planes, and has seen a major increase in activity with the advent of casinos on the coast.

Diamondhead

Diamondhead was founded in 1970 as a resort community whose name and street names were based on Hawaii's Diamond Head. The area didn't really take off for several years, though, and once it did, it was seen primarily as a retirement community.

All that has changed, and now Diamondhead is known as one of the fastest growing communities on the coast. Its

population, at last count, exceeds Pass Christian's, and the area has its own shopping center, hotel, restaurants, fire department, secu-

rity staff, yacht club, country club (with two golf courses), recreation centers with pools (one with a ball field), and small craft airport.

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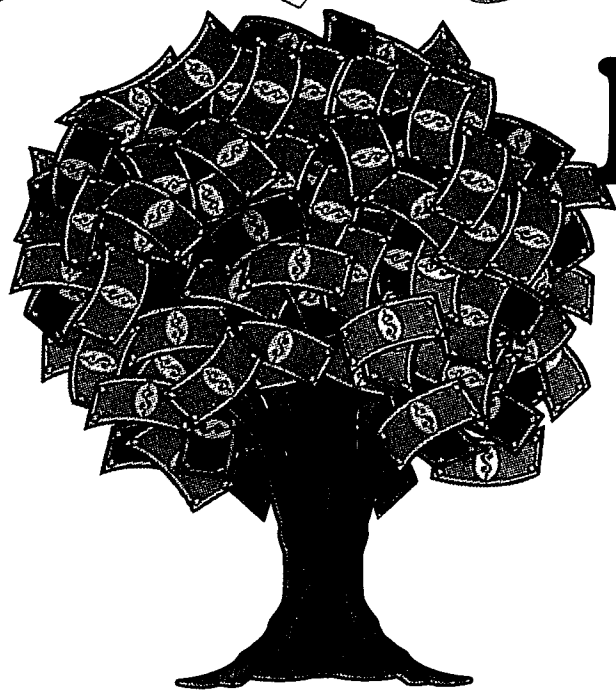
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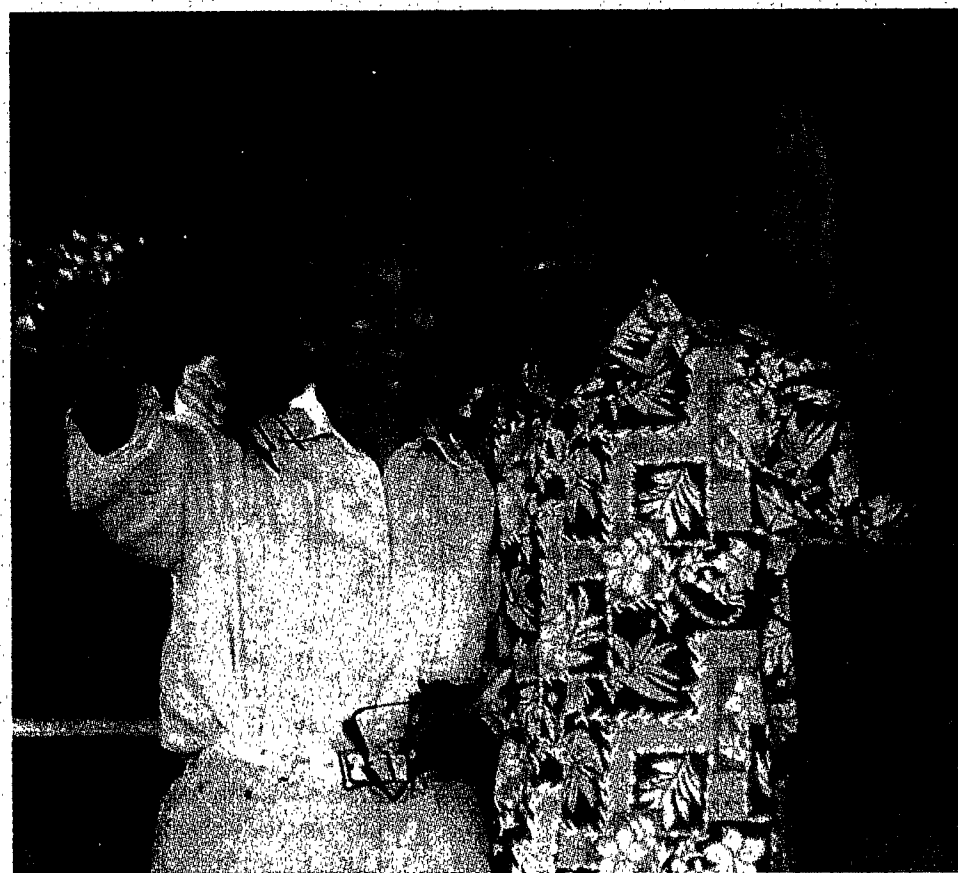
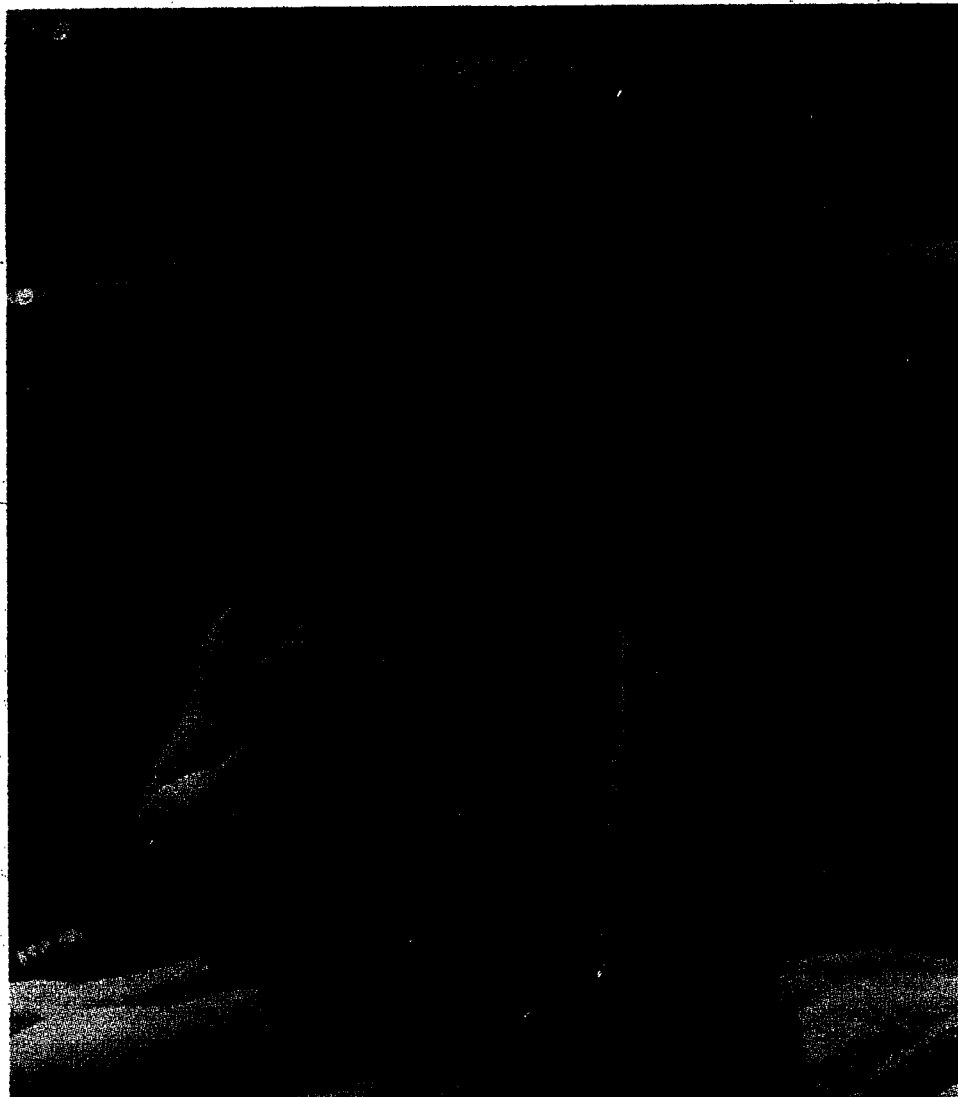
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United Way
of South Mississippi

Community Matters

2002 Report to the Community



Is United Way effective? You bet it is!

Over the last 25 years, I have had the opportunity to become intimately involved with three United Way organizations – Las Vegas, Atlantic City, and the Gulf Coast. Over those years, I have found that the United Way is quite unique, and operates entirely differently than other agencies that do good in the community. I thought I would take a moment in this letter to explain exactly what makes the United Way unique:

1. United Way Assesses Community Needs

The United Way is the only major organization that on a regular basis formally assesses the needs of the whole community. The United Way of South Mississippi has over 70 volunteers who meet throughout the year to review the community needs on specific areas:

- Meeting Basic Needs
- Strengthening Individuals and Families
- Promoting Self Sufficiency
- Nurturing Children and Youth

Each agency's program is evaluated on how it serves these community needs. This evaluation is then translated into the allocation process so that the United Way can invest donations to best satisfy these community needs.

2. United Way Mobilizes Community Support to Do Good

Through its large volunteer organization, the United Way is a true "community based" organization. Through its payroll deduction program, the working employees, many who actually receive benefits of the United Way, gain knowledge of the organization, and realize how donating their dollars makes a major difference in the community. At the senior volunteer level, community leaders are involved in not only raising money, but also determining how that money is to be spent in the most efficient manner. In addition, there are many mid-level volunteers who work to help raise the money and work on the committees of the United Way to help set its future direction. It is estimated that in the last campaign, around 400 people were involved in one way or another in the United Way

This publication produced as a community service by

THE SUN HERALD

South Mississippi's
Newspaper

effort.

3. United Way Leverages Donations

United Way's commitment to improving the quality of life for the people in our community is unwavering. Although you may think of them as only a fundraiser, United Way is so much more. They are a unique community-based organization with a mission to lead the way to solutions for a better community. United Way accomplishes this by providing community leadership, organizing solutions to pressing community problems and leveraging funds raised for greatest possible impact. Through corporate contributions to match employee contributions, through corporate match challenges, through special events, and through the writing of grants, the United Way leverages its basic donations to create maximum good for the community.

4. United Way Tackles New Problems

Because the United Way has its fingers on the community pulse, it is the first group aware of problems that arise in the community that no one else is aware of. They are then able to react and address these problems, even providing special funds when necessary. There are very few other organizations that do this.

5. United Way is Efficient

A general rule of thumb is that a charitable organization should not spend more than 30% of its donations for administration and marketing. In fact, the United Way spends less than 14% of the direct funds it raises for administration and marketing, and when you include the total amount of money raised by the United Way through its leveraging actions, this percentage reduces to a very low total overhead.

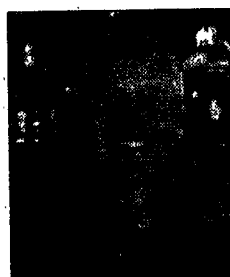
Is United Way effective?

You bet it is!

Will the United Way be effective in the future?

Yes, but only if everyone understands how important the United Way is to our community, and gives of their time and pocketbook to continue to make it the most successful community based charitable organization in the country.

Jack Galloway
President,
Board of Directors



UNITED WAY ANNUAL REPORT

From the Executive Director

What matters?

By Donna Alexander

Each one of us could respond with a variety of answers – family, education, safety, a stronger, healthier community. Our community has responded to this question by means of a community assessment conducted by United Way of South Mississippi. The assessment report is complete and we now have answers to What Matters from residents of Harrison, Hancock and Pearl River counties. Those answers challenge us to focus the resources and efforts of our communities to address critical issues to achieve results. Because RESULTS MATTER.

How do we measure progress in addressing community priorities and achieving the desired results? We can no longer measure results by how much money is raised or distributed. We must look at the overall impact in specific priority areas and the lives and the communities that are improved because of our efforts. Community impact translates into RESULTS.

United Way is in the business of impact – improving lives by mobilizing communities to create sustained changes in community conditions. Whether it's nurturing children and youth, promoting self-sufficiency, strengthening individuals and families or meeting basic needs, United Way collaborates with scores of community partners to identify and address critical issues to achieve the desired results.

Just as each of us invests in our own future, United Way invests in the future of our communities. This investment includes every resource available – people, knowledge, relationships, technology and money. United Way also provides leadership, acting as a convener, catalyst and a partner with business, industry and government as we address present concerns and anticipate emerging issues. United Way is recognized as the trusted partner of those who strive to make our communities better.

When we join forces with others, our contributions have greater impact. Your United Way contribution or investment, because it is magnified by the investment of others, has the power to bring about changes that matter in our community – changes that produce RESULTS, and that's WHAT MATTERS.

To achieve those results, we will need serious, sustained, well-led collaborations that will change people's lives in meaningful ways by changing the ways our communities work. Those collaborations must be built on the hard, factual answers to questions such as how come what we desire for our community doesn't already exist?

United Way's aspires to work at the community level, in partnership with and on behalf of the community. We know that the definition of "community" changes depending on the issues being given attention. "The community" can be defined as those who are directly affected by a problem or issue, those who can contribute to changing the situation and others concerned with the well-being of that community. "The community" may be people who are defined by common geography or by common concerns about an issue or problem.

United Way joins people and resources to improve the communities in which we live, work, and raise our families. United Way continues to increase our investment in our communities so that lives are improved. That's WHAT MATTERS.



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Mike Gai

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The Board of Director meeting dates are the 3rd Monday of each month, 4 p.m., at the United Way of South Mississippi office. This is a voluntary board and receives no compensation for serving.

South Mississippi invests in what matters through United Way

Delivering results right here at home

Throughout Harrison, Hancock and Pearl River counties, United Way of South Mississippi invests in 70 programs of 40 member agencies to provide services to families, children and adolescents, the elderly and handicapped citizens. Program services include emergency assistance, youth development, disaster services, counseling and health activities.

Following each agency's description of its mission and services, you will find UWSM's investments for 2003 listed by the funded programs. Campaign dollars raised in 2002 are the source for UWSM's 2003 investments in programs and agencies.

4-H Club, Hancock County, assists youths in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills and forming attitudes that enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society. 228-467-5456
 Agency - \$857

4-H Club, Harrison County, is a youth organization for 8- to 19-year-olds. 4-H provides hands-on activities, educational tours, day camp and residential camp at little or no cost. The program is one of the oldest youth organizations that continue the tradition of teaching values and leadership skills. 228-865-4227
 Agency - \$5,500



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Bruce Nourse, *Day of Caring, Beau Rivage*

DIVISION CHAIRS

Bill Kilduff, *Casinos, Isle of Capri Casinos*

What your investment returns to our community

Through United Way, you invest in our South Mississippi community's future. You support United Way's efforts to generate visible results in four critical impact areas. These areas and the amount invested into each are listed below:

- Meeting Basic Needs \$434,222
- Nurturing Children and Youth \$381,010
- Promoting Self-sufficiency \$259,419
- Strengthening individuals and families \$220,088

To ensure your community investment pays real dividends, United Way of South Mississippi monitors the success of each funded program, measuring results and linking progress toward broad community goals.

On these pages, we are providing a list of the many programs and service agencies in Hancock, Harrison and Pearl River counties that receive funding because of your United Way investment. We are also providing the specific amounts invested by United Way in each program and agency during our 2003 fiscal year, April 2003 through March 2004.

Without exceptional volunteers, none of what United Way of South Mississippi accomplishes would be possible. We hope you take a few moments to read through this Report and see how you and your friends and neighbors are working to advance the quality of life for those who live and work in our South Mississippi community.

American Red Cross, Mississippi Gulf Coast Chapter

provides all services mandated in the Congressional Charter. These services are to help the people of Hancock, Harrison and Pearl River counties prepare for and cope with emergency situations and major disasters.

228-896-4511

Disaster Relief - \$45,000
Service to Military - \$6,000
Emergency Services - \$37,000
Blood Services - \$3,000
Health & Safety - \$11,000

Area Agency on Aging of Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District works to assist older persons to live meaningful and dignified lives

Aldo Morell, *Industry, DuPont*
Patrick Benvenuti, *Industry, Bay Motor Winding*
Bill Peaks, *Health-Care, Garden Park Hospital*
John Hairston, *Banks/Finance, Hancock Bank*
Jackie Walker & Bob Fairbank, *Government, Mississippi Power Company*
John McFarland, *Harrison County, The Sun Herald*
John Walton, *Harrison County, Whitney Bank*
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Chuck Benvenuti, *Hancock County, Charles Benvenuti, CPA*
Carlos Hicks, *Education, Gulfport Schools*
Dr. Rebecca Askew, *Pearl River County, Pearl River Community College*

in their communities for as long as possible. United Way's support matches and expands federal monies used in providing in-home homemaker services, best described as "the things a son or daughter would do if an aging parent could no longer do for him or herself." 228-868-2311
Homemaker Program - \$30,000

Through the **Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) in Pearl River County**, United Way funding assists over 300 mentally handicapped individuals. Pearl River County ARC works to enhance the retarded citizens' quality of life and independence in living, learning and working. 601-798-8859
Job Training/Independence - \$4,500
Social Enrichment - \$800
Parent/Leader Training - \$200

Benny Prestridge, *Pearl River County, Pearl River Community College*

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David P. Brannon, *NASA*

4 AGENCY DIRECTORY 2003

Continued from page 3

United Way of South Mississippi • Annual Report

Pine Burr Area Council Boy Scouts of America

serves over 16,000 young men and women yearly with activities that build character, develop citizenship and promote personal fitness through an active Scouting program. The council's 16-county area in southern Mississippi includes Harrison, Hancock and Pearl River counties. 601-582-2326
Urban Emphasis - \$70,500



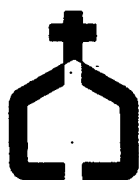
Boys and Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast, serving Harrison county, provide a safe place for young people to learn and grow through interaction with caring, adult professionals, life-enhancing programs and character building activities.

228-374-2330

CHASE the Dream - \$93,600

Catholic Social and Community Services (CSCS) provides programs and services to individuals and families regardless of race, religious preference or ability to pay. Its six offices serve 17 counties in southern Mississippi.

United Way funds benefit the agency's adoption, counseling, emergency assistance and maternity programs. 228-374-8316
Assistance - \$28,614
Maternity - \$35,735

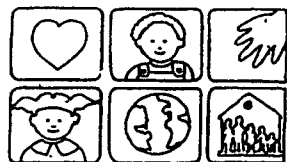


Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse

offers a variety of programs in its 14-county service area, all aimed at

preventing child abuse, enhancing parenting behavior and educating professionals and the public about child abuse. 228-868-8686

Family Resource Center - \$21,700
Child Victim Support - \$13,300



Child Abuse Education Council (CAEC)

provides programs and activities for the prevention of child abuse in Pearl River County. CAEC services include education, prevention, intervention and advocacy. 601-799-5886
L.I.F.E. Resource Center - \$2,818

Christian Care Ministry, organized by a coalition of church communities of various denominations, is a non-profit agency providing referral services and emergency help, including a food pantry, for residents of Picayune and Pearl River County. The office is located in Picayune City Hall. 601-799-3593



Emergency Assistance - \$26,500
Home delivered meals - \$4,000

The only facility of its kind in **South Mississippi, de l'Epee Deaf Center** is a multi-purpose service center for hearing-impaired individuals and their families. The de l'Epee Deaf Center also serves other agencies and businesses who have hearing-impaired clients, providing interpreting and other assistance in serving their needs. 228-897-2280

Emergency Assistance - \$7,000
Social & Living Skills - \$1,700
Interpreting Services - \$21,530

Epilepsy Foundation of Mississippi is dedicated to the prevention and cure of seizure disorders, the alleviation of their effects, and the promotion of independence and optimal quality of life for people who have these disorders. State office, 800-898-0291; Pearl River County, 601-798-0184

Medical Assistance & Health Education & Advocacy - \$1,919

Girl Scouts, Gulf Pines Council, serves girls in 21 southern Mississippi counties. Its mission is to inspire girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens. Hattiesburg, 601-582-0284; Gulfport, 228-864-7215



GIRL SCOUTS

Camping/Adult Development - \$21,750
Traditional/At Risk Troops - \$48,750

Goodwill Industries of Mississippi, Inc., based in the greater Jackson area, operates a facility in Picayune. The Pearl River County staff and volunteers operate an emergency assistance program that provides clothing, shoes, bedding and other household items for people experiencing fire, flood or other family hardships. Services are also

provided for those facing employment barriers and disadvantaging conditions. Jackson, 601-853-8110; Picayune, 601-798-8677

Goodwill Assistance Fund - \$662

Goodwill Industries of South Mississippi, based in Gulfport, operates throughout the Mississippi Gulf Coast area. It uses United Way dollars as "seed money" to provide jobs and job training to people with disabilities and other disadvantaging conditions. 228-863-2323

Work Force Development - \$15,000
Computer Business Education - \$5,000



Gulf Coast Family Counseling Agency, provides professional counseling services to individuals and families experiencing difficulties in their personal or family relationships. Professionally trained and licensed counselors staff the agency and offer day and evening appointments. 228-875-6113

Marriage, Family & Individual Counseling Services - \$16,500

Gulf Coast Mental Health Center is a full-service community mental health center providing comprehensive mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse services in Harrison, Hancock, Pearl River and Stone counties. United Way funding supports the center's residential substance abuse program. Also benefiting from United Way dollars are the agency's work activity centers housing vocational programs for developmentally disabled adults. 228-863-1132
Work Activity Program - \$15,000
Live Oaks Residential Program - \$14,599



Gulf Coast
Mental Health Center

Since its inception in 1959, the **Gulf Coast Society for Retarded Citizens (GCSRC)** has served people with mental retardation and developmental disabilities (MR/DD) with a variety of programs. GCSRC conducts a certified, sheltered workshop for adults and sponsors an eight-week summer



camp for children, ages 5 and up, with mental and physical disabilities. 228-868-9755

Benchmark - \$23,000

FLASH day care - \$2,000

Gulf Coast Women's Center For Nonviolence

Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence exists to eradicate family violence, provide support for victims of sexual assault and educate the community. It maintains a 24-hour crisis line for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and homicide and provides an emergency crisis hospital response for victims of sexual assault. 228-435-1968

Rape Crisis - \$5,000

Domestic Violence - \$90,000

Children's Services - \$15,000

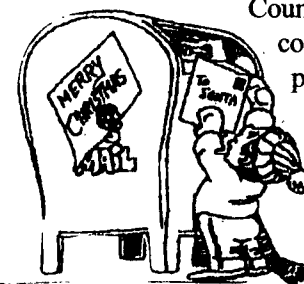


Habitat for Humanity, Harrison County, is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry that builds simple, decent and affordable homes in partnership with those in need. Through Habitat's self-help housing program, families purchase the houses at no profit through interest-free, 20-year loans. In freeing families from the struggles that accompany inadequate shelter, the program opens the door to self-esteem and self-reliance. 228-374-4946

Homebuilding Program - \$18,000

Hancock County Firemen's Doll and Toy Fund. At Christmas time each year, local firemen play Santa Claus to needy children of Hancock

County. They collect and purchase new toys and repair used ones



throughout the year. United Way funds help to purchase the toys. 228-467-9092

Clothes & Toys for Children - \$2,053

Hancock Co. Inc., an all-volunteer organization, exists to provide food and other non-food essentials to citizens experiencing Referrals are churches and 228-467-2790
Food Assistance

Hancock Co. Agency operates Program and t Hancock Cour socialize, deve activities. The home delivered elderly people them to remain 228-467-8050
Home Delivered Child Development Senior Citizens

Hope Haven sheltering environment who have been homes due to a Hancock Cour children at a ti
Emergency Foster

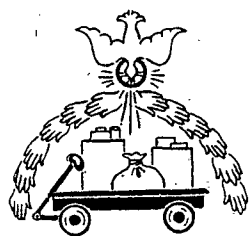
Keesler AFB Development comprehensive that support the and emotional youths, ages 5-
TRAIL Program Specialty Deploy

Meals on Wheels ally balanced n frail, disabled a in Harrison Co trative costs of by the Harrison Resources Age funds are used costs. 228-896
Home Delivered

Mental Health Harrison Cour services to pers tal illnesses and

Hancock County Food Pantry, Inc.,

an all-volunteer organization, exists to provide food and other non-food essentials to citizens of the county who are experiencing crisis situations. Referrals are received from area churches and local service providers. 228-467-2790



Food Assistance - \$20,000

Hancock County Human Resource Agency

operates a Child Development Program and the Senior Center where Hancock County residents over 60 can socialize, develop skills and engage in activities. The agency also provides home delivered meals to homebound elderly people, a factor in allowing them to remain in their homes. 228-467-8050

Home Delivered Meals - \$5,843
Child Development Program - \$12,000
Senior Citizens Center - \$5,843

Hope Haven provides a safe, local, sheltering environment for children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. The Hancock County shelter can house 12 children at a time. 228-467-7945
Emergency Foster Care - \$27,000

Keesler AFB Youth & Child Development Program provides comprehensive, year-round programs that support the physical, mental, social and emotional well-being of Keesler youths, ages 5-18. 228-377-3349
TRAIL Program - \$7,500
Specialty Deployment Camps - \$5,000

Meals on Wheels delivers nutritionally balanced meals to the homes of frail, disabled and homebound elderly in Harrison County. Because administrative costs of the program are borne by the Harrison County Human Resources Agency, all United Way funds are used specifically for meal costs. 228-896-0214
Home Delivered Meals - \$25,000

Mental Health Association in Harrison County provides support services to persons suffering from mental illnesses and disability. It provides

public education to the community as well as advocacy, information and referral and prevention programs. 228-864-6274

Drop-In Center - \$9,400
Homebase Program - \$11,600
Advocacy, referral & Education - \$3,000



Well-trained **HELPLINE** volunteers are as near as a phone call and available 24 hours a day thanks to the efforts of Mississippi Gulf Coast Help, Inc. The agency provides a round-the-clock crisis intervention and referral telephone service to people in need in South Mississippi. 228-374-HELP (374-4357). Outside Harrison County, 1-888-279-3685
Information & referral & Crisis support Services - \$12,100

Mississippi Gulf Coast YMCA channels its UWSM funds exclusively to allow financially disadvantaged children to participate in camp programs. The local YMCA Youth Activities Center Branch in Long Beach focuses on youth programs. For the first time, UWSM is investing in the Adolescent Offenders program of the Y. Long Beach, 228-864-1223; Ocean Springs, 228-872-7247
Scholarships - Long Beach - \$26,500



Moore Community House (MCH) is a community center in east Biloxi, an economically depressed neighborhood that addresses the needs of local families. 228-436-3741
Pre-school Development - \$60,000

Pearl River Information and Drug Education, PRIDE

offers a comprehensive range of programs focusing on drug education, substance abuse prevention, intervention and after-care for the Picayune and Pearl River County community. 601-798-4508

Drug & Violence Reduction - \$14,500

Picayune School Health Fund

addresses the vision, dental, medical and hearing needs of children in grades K-12 of the Picayune Schools. This fund assists children who are not eligible for other assistance programs and whose families do not have medical insurance. 601-798-3230

School Health Fund - \$5,000

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

in Hancock County coordinates the talents and abilities of volunteers over the age of 55, matching them with various non-profit organizations in the community. 228-467-9204

Elder Volunteer Services - \$16,000

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

in Harrison County enables individuals age 55 and older to put their skills and life experiences to work for their community. 228-867-6537

Elder Volunteer Services - \$20,000

The Salvation Army provides emergency services including men's and women's recovery programs, emergency shelter, food, clothing, medical assistance, counseling and assistance with rents, utilities, transportation and spiritual and social needs. Biloxi, 228-374-8301; Gulfport, 228-868-1188

Social Services Biloxi - \$21,114
Social Services Gulfport - \$47,506
Homeless Family Services - \$36,674
Day Shelter - \$15,000



Participating **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** chapters in Hancock and Harrison counties are affiliated with the international Catholic organization of lay persons who seek, in a spirit of justice and charity, to help the poor and those who are suffering and in need. Hancock County, 228-467-5662 or 466-4314; Biloxi, Our Lady of Fatima, 228-388-7069

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Our Lady of Fatima - Emergency Assistance - \$25,000

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Hancock County - Emergency Assistance - \$35,969

South Mississippi AIDS Task Force (SMATF)

is a community organization that addresses the HIV/AIDS pandemic. United Way dollars are spent directly for the agency's efforts to prevent new cases of HIV on the Mississippi Coast, and to provide clients with medication, food and housing. 228-385-1214

Client & Family Services - \$17,675
Community Ed. & Prevention - \$3,500
Youth Education & Prevention - \$12,000
Homeless Prevention & Housing - \$2,488
Volunteer Support Training - \$1,000

Toy Library & Technology Learning Center (TLC)

operates on the Long Beach campus of the University of Southern Mississippi - Gulf Coast. The Toy Library purchases adapted toys operated by switches, loans them free of charge to families with a disabled child and teaches parents and educators how to use these toys to play with their children and enhance their development. 228-867-2636

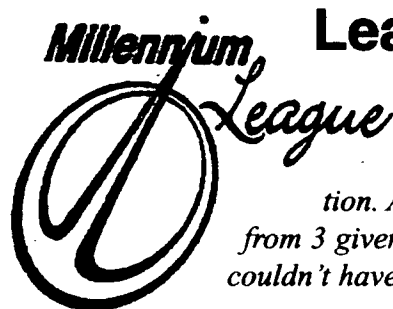
Toys to Technology - \$20,000



United Service Organization (USO)

Local men and women in military service, traveling or on assignment, find recreational outlets, information and referral services and a touch of home at USO facilities in the U.S. and abroad. 202-610-5700

Service to Military - \$476



Leading the way ... Millennium League continues to grow Alexis de Tocqueville Society contributor numbers double

We honor the hundreds of individuals and businesses who led the way of caring in South Mississippi this year to help us reach our goal. Each year we have shown an increase in leadership givers and this year was no exception. Also showing a dramatic increase this year was the Alexis de Tocqueville Society. This group has increased 300% from 3 givers in 1998 to 12 in 2002. This year alone the de Tocqueville Society increased 100% with 6 new members. We couldn't have done it without each and every one of you, thanks for caring about what matters in your community!

**Alexis de Tocqueville Society Member*

A G Edwards & Sons Inc.
Charles P. Hewes
Doug Medley
P. Michael Pela
Percy Kaigler II
Henry P. Hewes
Tom McCormick
Abacus Technology Corporation
Marla Carpenter
Alcan Cable
Mike Woodard
Hubert Yarbrough
Richard and Pamela Stokes
Anteon Corp.
Fred & Ingrid Zeile
Arizona Chemical
Billy Nelsen
Balch & Bingham
Ben H. Stone*
Rodger & Ruthie Wilder
Teri Wyly
Ricky & Stacey Cox
Bancorp South
Ray L. Wesson, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Brown
David Branch
Ric Williams
Bay Motor Winding Inc.
Edward M. Benvenuti
Mary Kay Hubbard
Patrick Benvenuti
Bay Technical Associates
Michael & Joy Nissen
Bay-Waveland Schools
Frances Weiler
BE&K (DuPont)
Dennis C. Weaver
Darren Watson
BE&K (Wellman)
Gary Morris
Biloxi Regional Medical Center
Robert Hammond
Brenda Whitwell
Joan M. Strayhan
Biloxi Schools
Boeing
Joe and Melinda Myers
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Chris and Susan Barthel
Joyce and Burnal Lawrence
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Alfred
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan W. Clemens

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Tim and Vicki Lorenz
Boomtown Casino
James T. Turner
Boy Scouts of America, Pine Burr
W. Robert Hofmann
Bryant, Clark, Dukes, Blakeslee
Bill McDonough
William D. Blakeslee
David & Karen Sawyer
Butch Oustalet Ford
Butch Oustalet*
Calgon Carbon Corporation
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Capital Management
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Casino Magic, Bay St Louis
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Mr. & Mrs. Todd Raziano
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Melvin
Jeana Tribble
Kathy Murphree
Bruce Daggett
Shannon Oberlies
Mark & Jennifer Thompson
Mr. Jeff Avena
Leslie B. Patrick
John & Heather Chaszar
Casino Magic, Biloxi
Julie Ruesch
Bryan Twidwell
Leslie Clark
Barry Regula
Marcia Bunge
LaShawnda Bankston
John & Bridget Ferrucci
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Catholic Diocese of Biloxi
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Marjorie L. Gill
ChevronTexaco (Picayune)
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Chuck Benvenuti, CPA
Charles Benvenuti
City of Gulfport

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Rosemary & Preston Weeks
Paul & Brenda Young
David Swindell
Sidney Gonzales
Larry & Doris Buehler
David Carver
Patrick Blackwell
Lisa Wisniewski
Eduardo Ramos
Samson Hsu
Karen Bilbo
Rick Miller
Paul Albrecht
Walter & Donna Beam
George & Tammy Casey
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Dees
Ms. Kathryn R. Evans
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Fischer
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Keough
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Lakey
Terrill Lamb
Dick & Patricia Rogers

2002 Alexis de Tocqueville Society Members
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Jane & Dave Dennis
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Mr./Mrs. Micheal D. Garrett
Tim & Dawn Hinckley
Aldo & Carol Morell
Butch Oustalet
Leo W. Seal Family
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Mr./Mrs. Chevis Sweetman
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William Seemann

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Kelly Schrock
Dave & Carolyn Schussler
Ralph Singleton
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Helen Walter-Terrinoni
FedEx
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Garden Park Medical Center
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Brent Hoda
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Garrett Kirk
Beth Hodges
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GE Plastics
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Vincent Dandrea
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Jerri R. Stringer
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Grand Casino Gulfport
Tom Selleck
John Murphy, Jr.
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Dickie Doucet
Cheryl Lowell
Kate & Steve Warner
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Millennium Continued

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Gary L. Stol
Albert Weaver
Gulfport Schools
Candy & Paul
Carlos Hicks
Margaret H. Hicks
E. Dean Freeman
Dr. Barbara
Amanda Bre
Gulfshores
Management
Gregory Ed
Hancock Bay
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Joy Lambert
John & Ann
Clay Wagner
Yearwood
Louise & Cl
Darryl & Ar
Breckenridge
Dee Dee Ru
David W. M
Leslie & Ale
Steven Cole
Ken Freeman
Regina M. L
Diane & Ma
Martin & Ja
Keith A. Wil
Gwendolyn
John & Terri
Vanessa Duc
Libby Dosse
Norman Mc
David Lund
Kathleen Wi
Nescuterica
Amy Altese
Sal & Linda
Emile & Jea
Shane & Mc
Adrian Smit
Sandra Touc
Mr. & Mrs. J
Carl & Jinx
David M. Br
Kathy McK
Pete E. Mor
John Portwo
Mr. & Mrs. J
Linda & Cli
Anthony Mc
Hancock Co
Retirees/Ind
Leo W. Seal

Millennium League contributors

Continued from page 6

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Gulfport Schools
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Gulfshores Hotel Management
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 Clay Wagner & Lisa Wagner
 Yearwood
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 Darryl & Amanda Breckenridge
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Lockheed Martin MSO
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 Stan Tiner
 Marlene Kler
 Gary Raskett
 Vickie Barrett
 John McFarland
 Flora Point
Taber Extrusions
 W. Thomas Ellis

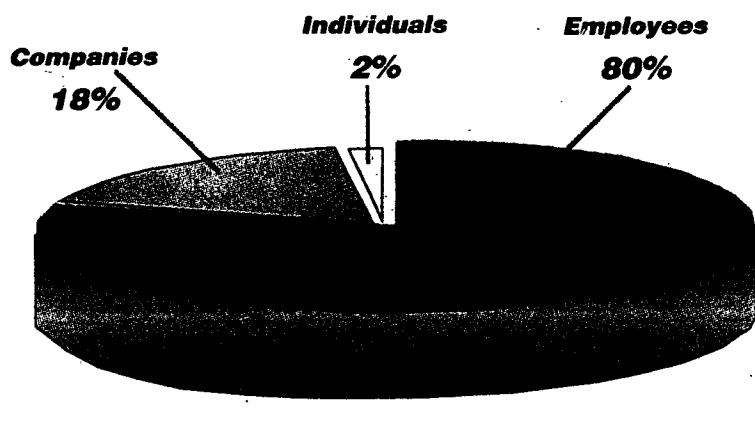
Treasure Bay Casino Resort
 Susan Varnes
 Bernie Burkholder
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 LeeAnn Hunter
 Peter Kourkounis
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 David & Angelyn Treutel, Jr.
 Triton Systems, Inc.
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Williams Travel Center
 Michael Lang
WLOX TV, Inc.
 Jim Fleming
 Leon Long
 Carolyn McGrew

61 Contributors
 wish to remain
 anonymous

United Way's local funding for 2003

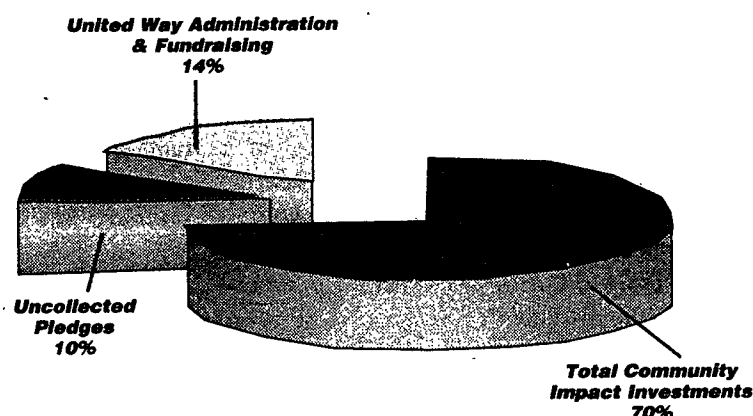
Contributions to the United Way of South Mississippi from the fall 2002 campaign are being invested in programs and agencies that United Way groups into four fields of service. UWSM member agencies and their community programs will receive the following in funding:

Where the Donations came from in 2002



For more information,
please visit
our web site at:
www.uw-sm.org

Where the money will be invested in 2003/2004



■ Total Community
Impact Investments

■ Uncollected
pledges

■ UWSM
Administration &
Fundraising

REVENUE/EXPENSE SUMMARY

for the period ending March 31, 2003

REVENUE

Public Support/Revenue (United Way and CFC) **\$2,590,655**

From other campaigns:

Other Combined Federal Campaigns	\$17,071
Other United Way Campaigns	\$16,142
Other Income:	
Reimbursement from CFC	\$51,097
Investment Income	\$7,804
Rent Income	\$2,250
Miscellaneous/other income	\$37,279

TOTAL REVENUE \$2,647,739

ALLOCATIONS/EXPENSES

Allocations to agencies (local)	\$1,300,966
Allocations to CFC agencies (out of area)	\$657,900
Distributions to September 11 Fund	\$73,786
Designations to other United Way's	\$10,358
Admin. Campaign expense	\$531,295
TOTAL ALLOCATIONS/EXPENSES	\$2,574,305

Increase in fund balance \$73,434

Community Impact Volunteers and Community Investment Teams

Community Impact Volunteers

Mary Ellen Calvert, VP Comm Impact
Jim Compton, Chair Fund Distribution

Community Impact Council

Ruth Bishop, Memorial Hospital
Dr. Bill Hawley, Community Volunteer
Bill McDonough, Bryant Clark
John McFarland, The Sun Herald
Greg Crapo, Merchiston Hall
Linda Watts, Mississippi Power Co.
Mary Ellen Calvert, Consultant
Patrick Benvenuti, Bay Motor Winding
Rod Walker, Mississippi Power Co.
Cindy Shaw, Mississippi Power Co.
Robbie Davidson, Isle of Capri

Community Investment Teams

Chairs

Patrick Benvenuti, Bay Motor Winding
Greg Crapo, Merchiston Hall
Cindy Shaw, Mississippi Power
Robbie Davidson, Isle of Capri

Co-Chairs

Sharon Gusa, Community Volunteer
Judy Pippin, RE/MAX Premier Group
Clay Wagner, Hancock Bank
Susan Pickish, City of Biloxi
Nicole Dagnall, City of Picayune

Team Members

Vicki Barrett, The Sun Herald
George Birdrow, UBS Paine Webber
Amanda Breckenridge, Gulfport Schools
Debbie Burke, Whitney Bank
Debbie Benefield, Mississippi Power Co.
Robbie Davidson, Isle of Capri
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John Edenfield, Wellman
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Barbara Thomas, Gulfport Schools
Freda Johnson, Sprint PCS
Lisa Jones, Hancock Bank
Kim LaRosa, Isle of Capri
Ashley Schloegel, Hancock Bank
Michael Schloegel, Hancock Bank

Federations must include details of the membership dues and/or service charges received by the federation from the charitable organizations participating as members. The information should be clearly presented to allow the general public to understand the amounts raised, the source of contributions, the costs of fundraising, and how costs are recovered from donations.